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MAIN STREET, LOOKING EAST FROM BROADWAY, SHILOH, ILL.

HISTORIC SKETCH
AND
BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM
OF
SHELBY COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

"A people that take no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote generations."—MACAULAY.

BIOGRAPHY IS THE ONLY TRUE HISTORY."—EMERSON.

ILLUSTRATED.

EMBELLISHED WITH PORTRAITS OF WELL KNOWN RESIDENTS
OF SHELBY COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

SHELBYVILLE, ILLINOIS :
THE WILDER PUBLISHING COMPANY,
1900.
SHELBYVILLE LEADER PRINT.

1596004

INTRODUCTION.

It is the province of the historian to snatch from oblivion that information pertaining to nations and peoples which may be of any possible interest or benefit to those of the present or to the "millions yet unborn," and to faithfully record it in enduring form. In order to honestly accomplish this end the writer must curb his fancies and put a check upon his imaginative propensities; he must not seek to weave a fabric of surpassing beauty regardless of facts, which must form the basic foundation of all true history. But, rather, he must dig and delve into records, official and private; into the traditions handed down from generation to generation from decades long past; into the memory of the old pioneer who still survives; and by prolonged and diligent search seek to know the truth, that the truth alone in after years may bear record of his work.

Such shall be our constant aim and effort in the compilation of this historical sketch and biographical album of Shelby county. We fully realize the stupendousness of the task lying before us, in preparing the history of even a county which, at first glance, might appear to the uninitiated as an easy work; the records and necessary data being easy of access. But let us disabuse the mind of this mistaken idea. There are

in store for us, in the compiling of this history, countless interviews with men of prominence and obscurity; the following up of many clues to interesting information, only to find in the end they are but wraiths of the facts they are purported to be; the fruitless search for data to complete some essential bit of history; and weary hours of delving into old and musty records, that we may give to the reader matter of interest as well as valuable information. But notwithstanding this outlook, we enter upon our task, trusting that when completed this History of Shelby county, than which no other county of the state is more historical, will be a volume to be prized for its interesting features and genuine worth.

We shall faithfully seek to interest the reader in the pre-historic days of the county, and shall give a complete report of its organization, its name, and the construction of its public buildings; some attention will be paid to its geographical situation, size, topography, etc., together with brief mention of its state roads, and political parties; we shall endeavor to portray the manners and customs of the pioneers, and will glean a chapter from the official records of the county: Shelby's part in the wars of the nation will be alluded to by Comrade Elgin H. Martin, as well as the war between the Gospel and the

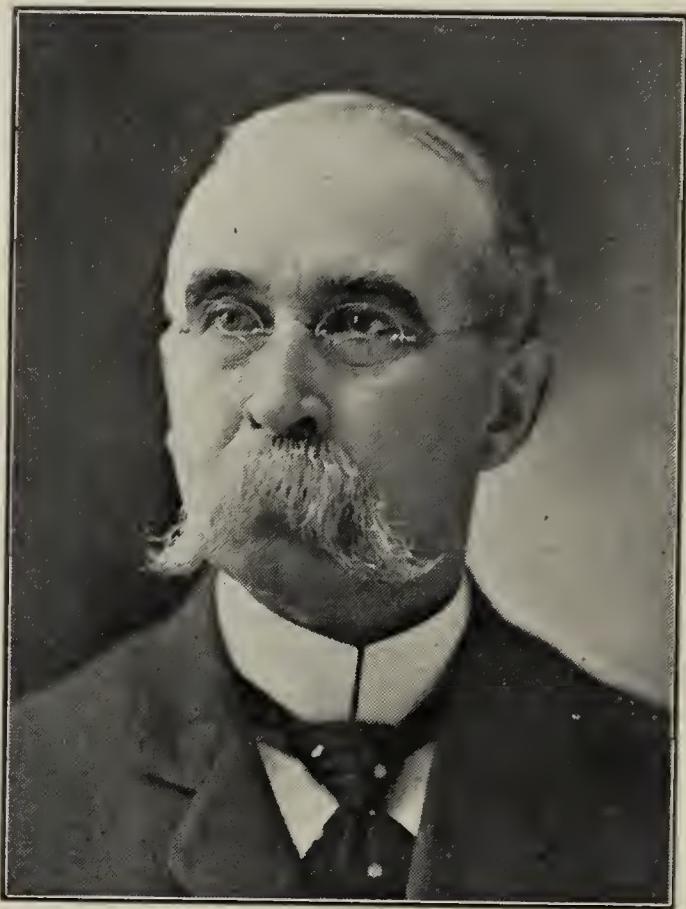
wrong, as told in the ecclesiastical chapter by Rev's H. H. Oneal, W. H. Drummet, B. W. Tyler, A. J. Smith, A. A. Todd, J. F. Bair and others. A chapter of reminiscences by Attorney Geo. B. Rhoads, will be found to be interesting reading, and the Bar of the county will receive extended mention from the pen of Hon. Geo. D. Chafee; an interesting personal history is to be given by Rev. Jasper L. Douthit, and the educational work of the county will be dealt with, as well as the business enterprises and institutions, together with a chapter on the Press from the pen of Hon. Geo. R. Graybill.

To the gentlemen whose names appear above, and to the many others upon whose courtesy and efficient aid we rely to help us in our

work, we take this opportunity of rendering our sincere words of appreciation and thanks.

Following this department will be the Biographical division. It has been said by the immortal Emerson that "Biography is the only true history." In soliciting data for this section of our work we shall confine ourselves to representatives of the better class of citizens of the county, but shall by no means hope to secure all of that class; for there will be many such whose names, through no fault of ours, will not appear.

We have outlined our work, and ask for it a careful though charitable perusal. It will not be above criticism, but our constant effort and hope shall be to present to the public a work that shall be, in a measure, creditable.



JUDGE TRUMAN E. AMES.

HISTORIC SKETCH OF SHELBY COUNTY.

CHAPTER I.

PREHISTORIC DAYS.

Observe! that Nature speaks to us with many voices.

At morn, she whispers to us from the dewy blade;

Again, at noon, she speaks to us in tones of dazzling brightness;

And yet again, at eve, in hushed and solemn accents,

She asks us to adore the God of all Creation.

—*D. L. Davis.*

The scenic effect of a broad stretch of prairie is inspiringly beautiful; but more attractive to the eye and pleasing to the inherent artistic sense possessed in a greater or lesser degree by every human being, is the landscape which presents to view the broad expanse of undulating prairie broken at intervals by wooded knolls and hills, mossy dells and vales, swiftly moving rivers and flowing brooks.

Such was the sublime scene presented in the early part of the century by the territory now confined within the boundaries of Shelby county, when the pioneers and early settlers came in from the east and up from the south to make homes for themselves in what was then a wilderness, uninhabited save by the "dusky warrior" and the animals of the plains.

As has been indicated this section was divided between prairie and timbered land, which made it of double value to those who wished to

settle upon it: the prairie being readily convertible into tillable farms without the toil and delay of "clearing" it, while the wooded tracts provided fuel and the timber from which the rude homes were constructed. This timber growth covered a considerable portion of the land surface, but was more dense along the borders or near the numerous creeks and rivers. Much of it has fallen before the sturdy blows of the axe in the hands of the settlers, though many natural and artificial groves still remain, which, with the broad acres of waving grain and large herds of sleek live stock, produce a picture of surpassing beauty and pleasing aspect.

THE FLORA.

Prominent amongst the very many trees and plants found in what is now Shelby county, were the maple, both rock and black sugar, silver leaf and ash leaf; the smooth leaf alder; the false indigo shrub; the paw-paw; the red birch and blue beech; the cherry, both choke and cabinet; hazelnut; hawthorn; hickory of the several varieties; ash, white, black, green and blue; witch-hazel; butternut and walnut; cottonwood; the several willows; elms and oaks of all kinds; poison ivy; prickly, smooth and swamp gooseberry; currant; elderberry; red and black raspberry; blackberry; summer and frost grape, and the rose. Many of the more valuable of these are now almost extinct, having been utilized in the constructing of buildings and the manufacture of household furniture and farm-

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ing implements. The greater portion of the native shrubs and plants have given place to the cultivation of those which are of more practical good to the settlers, still many of them can be found in profusion along the water courses. Many varieties of grasses were found here, principal amongst which was that called blue joint, and which grew to the height of the head of a man on horseback.

THE FAUNA.

A number of species of ruminating animals are still to be found in the county, though in the early days a great many more existed in abundance. The pioneers found both the American and White Tail Deer, the former being the more common; the Black Bear; the Gray and Prairie Wolf; Gray Fox; Panther and Wild Cat, or Lynx, belonging to the same family; the Weasel; Mink; American Otter; Skunk; Badger; Raccoon; Opossum and other smaller animals. The Black Bear and American Otter have been extinct species in this section for several decades, as have several others, also. The presence of civilization has driven them into haunts less frequented by men.

As late as 1820 the settlers here found an abundance of the heads, horns and bones of the Elk and Buffalo, which was evidence that these noble animals had once roamed at will and in large numbers over these plains. But ere this the Buffalo and Elk had forsaken these feeding grounds and had crossed the Mississippi toward the westward horizon, never to return. It is interesting, but not a matter of pleasant contemplation, to know that where once the noble American Buffalo roamed in vast numbers over the western plains, there are now but three small herds known to exist. This is due to the fla-

grant and malicious killing, by those who were devotees of the chase, of this animal which should have been protected by well-enforced statutes long ere this.

The Raccoons and Opossums are to be found throughout the state, and were in abundance in this region. Coon skins were considered legal tender by the pioneers, and passed as rapidly among them as greenbacks do at the present day. Altogether, the animals which existed in such plentitude furnished rare and abundant sport for the early inhabitants of the country.

FIRST PERMANENT SETTLEMENT.

The first permanent settlement in what is now Shelby county was made in March of 1818, the same year in which Illinois was admitted to the union of states. Charles Wakefield, Sr., moved into and settled in what is now Cold Spring township. He was accompanied by his wife and children—Simeon, John and Enoch. Wakefield were married and brought their families with them. Ormsby Vanwinekle, a son-in-law, also accompanied them, as did Charles Wakefield, Jr., an unmarried young man. Mr. Wakefield built his house, the first one to be built in this county, about three-fourths of a mile to the southeast of the cold spring, which furnished an abundance of clear, cold water. This house was constructed of rough logs with a chimney of sticks and mud. Simeon Wakefield settled at the spring, with John to the southeast, Enoch to the west and Ormsby Vanwinekle northwest, on contiguous lands. This location, now Williamsburg, was doubtless chosen by these men because of the pure water, the fertile soil and the abundance of all kinds of game in the surrounding forest. The

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Wakefields were all noted hunters and genuine frontiersmen, having lived in St. Clair county, this state, before coming to this county, and after planting a little corn in the spring of the year they would devote the balance of the time to hunting and fishing. They were very friendly and intimate with the Indians, who were principally of the Kickapoo tribe, and were thoroughly conversant with their language, manners and customs. These Indians went farther west after the Black Hawk war.

In the same year in which the Wakefields settled at the cold spring they were followed by several more families from St. Clair county. Lemuel Hawkins, Arthur Crocker and the Widow Petties with their families made homes for themselves in the same locality. This made quite an addition to the little colony, and the time dragged not so heavily and the long evenings passed a little more pleasantly and cheerfully because of the social gatherings at one home or another.

A year later, in 1819, Thomas Pugh, a native of North Carolina, but who was reared in Kentucky, established a home for himself and family near Cold Spring, which the little settlement had come to be called. Mr. Pugh was quite prominently identified with the early life of the Cold Spring settlement. Greenville, Bond county, was their nearest milling place for several years, and from thence he would bring supplies of powder, lead, salt and other things and exchange them with the Indians for dressed hides, bees' wax and other trinkets.

All of these settlers, and Mr. Pugh in particular, had many interesting experiences with the wild animals of the forest—the bears, wolves, panthers, catamounts and wild cats, the latter being very numerous. It was no uncommon thing for him, as he pursued a trail through the

forest to come upon the partially devoured carcass of a deer that had fallen a victim to some of these animals, which were possessed of the cunning to conceal under a covering of leaves the portion of the body which remained after their greed had been satisfied. The early pioneers would often suffer much loss from the ravages of these wild beasts upon the calves and hogs. We are told that frequently they would find their hogs with several pounds of flesh eaten from their backs by a bear. It should not then become a source of wonder that Mr. Pugh and the rest spent so much of their time in hunting these voracious animals to their death in order to protect their live stock, as well as to provide for themselves the hides and pelts with which to render their rude dwelling places a little more comfortable by fastening them to the ceiling and walls for protection against the drifting snow and chilling blasts of winter. Mr. Pugh lived in the county for forty years, dying in 1859 on a farm one mile north of Shelbyville.

FIRST LAND ENTRY.

In 1821, on the 19th of July, the first land entry was made in Shelby county. It was of eighty acres in Section 13, Township 10—2, by Charles Wakefield, Sr. Thomas Pugh and John Walker each entered eighty acres in Section 14, Township 10—2, in November, 1822.

FIRST MILL.

Asa Ledbetter came from the southern part of Illinois in 1822, and being of quite an enterprising disposition he built a mill on the Okaw river a short distance above Shelbyville, at a place since known as the Francisco Mill site. He carried on this enterprise until the spring of

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1828, when the mill was washed away by the high water. Mr. Ledbetter attempted to save the mill by weighting it down with stone brought from the opposite side of the river in a canoe. On the last trip across the canoe sank and its occupant was precipitated into the freezing water. He was a poor swimmer and before help reached him he had become so chilled that his own efforts to keep up were fruitless, and he lost his life.

FIRST BLACKSMITH IN THE COUNTY.

Jonathan C. Corley was another man of prominence among the early pioneers of this county. He was born in Virginia, went to Kentucky in 1808, and from there came to Illinois in 1823 and located on Robinson's Creek northwest of Shelbyville. He was the first blacksmith to settle within the boundaries of our county, and was also a farmer. He held the office of Justice of the Peace for many years and was quite prominent in the county until his death in 1860. Mr. Corley was the father of thirteen children.

Perhaps there was none more closely identified with the early days, nor more highly respected for good judgment and integrity than Levi Casey, a native of South Carolina, but who came to Shelby in 1824 and settled on Robinson's Creek. Mr. Casey was one of the early county commissioners and lived on the farm upon which he first settled, until his death in 1855.

In 1825 Samuel Little came from Southern Illinois and built a cabin in what is now Ash Grove township. The following spring he was joined by his brother John and his brother-in-law, Robert Duncan, who constructed rude cabins near by. They were all genuine frontiersmen and hunters and delighted in the hunt

and their associations with the Indians, upon whom they played many a practical joke, but with whom they remained on very friendly terms. When the Indians left the state the Littles went to Texas, but Mr. Duncan remained here until his death. He accumulated considerable property in Bond county.

The first settler on Richland Creek was David Elliott, who came there in 1825 and built a horse mill and still house, which he operated for a number of years with great profit to himself. In the following year his brother, Jacob Elliott, moved into the settlement, but afterwards removed to Holland township, where he remained until his death only a few years ago.

William Weeger was another of the settlers in prehistoric days, coming to Richland Creek in 1826. He was one of the early county commissioners. His eldest son, John, came to the county in the same year and settled near his father. His wife gave birth to twins on the 4th of July and the Indians made for them a double papoose cradle which is still retained in the family as a relic of the earlier days. We might mention the names of Samuel Weatherspoon, Baziel Daniel, William Daniel and B. Fancher, who, with their families, settled in the neighborhood of Big Springs in 1826.

In the fall of the same year John Cochran, with his three sons-in-law, John, Daniel and William Price, came to the county and settled in what is now known as Cochran's Grove. Mr. Cochran was the father of five children, the youngest of whom, James, survived the others for many years. John Frazer, Robert Templeton, John Storm, John Bolin, Daniel Green, Joseph Dixon and Robert Rankin, with their families, were also very early settlers of Ash Grove township, where many of their descendants still reside.

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James and John Renshaw came from White county with a drove of hogs in 1825. They were so pleased with the country hereabouts that they went home, sold their possessions and returned to Richland Creek the following year, and settled themselves and families upon desirable property there. James afterwards lived in Shelbyville for awhile, subsequently moving to Decatur, Illinois. John continued on the farm upon which he first settled.

By many of the older citizens Barnett Bone will be remembered. He was amongst the early settlers, coming to Illinois in 1825 from Tennessee, his native state. He built a comfortable and substantial log cabin on the banks of the Okaw, about two miles south of the present site of the City of Shelbyville. In

this house was held the first session of the County Commissioners' Court. Mr. Bone was a public spirited man, and was ever ready to further the interests of the county and assist in its development. He was a leading member of the Methodist church, and his name was always the synonym of cordial hospitality and kindness. He was twice married and lived to a good old age, dying in the county in which he had lived so many years and with the interests of which he had been so prominently identified.

And thus, with this brief mention of the men and their families who braved the hardships and dangers of pioneer life, and reclaimed this region, in the "Prehistoric Days," we pass on to the establishment of the county corporate.

ORGANIZATION--NAME--COUNTY BUILDINGS.

CHAPTER II.

The grand and illimitable possibilities which the pioneers and statesmen of the early days prophetically saw in this section of the country, and caused them to advise the addition of a new civil organization to the number of counties in the state, have all been demonstrated; and, indeed, greater things than then existed in their most sanguine hopes have been realized.

In January of the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, the act of the legislature of Illinois creating the County of Shelby was approved by the Governor and went into effect. Then, Shelby was to the casual observer but a strip of prairie land, here and there dotted with woodland, but with a fertile soil and such a geographical location as to intimate to the interested ones that it was valuable property; today, there are broad and beautiful farms which are pleasing to the eye and which provide sustenance for thousands of people. Then, there were but a few settlers, scattered over more than a thousand square miles of territory, while today there is a population within her borders of thirty-two thousand one hundred twenty-six. Then, there were but rude cabins of rough-hewn logs, while today, in their stead are the neat, beautiful and commodious homes of the citizens. Then, there were but a small number of log school houses and places of worship; now, there

are a great many very fine schools and churches of elegant modern architectural design. Then, there were but the winding prairie roads and rough paths leading through the timbered lands; now, there are the smooth and well-kept highways and by-roads. Then, there were no means of transportation but the pack-horse and lumber wagon; today, there are many miles of railroad which furnish excellent and convenient transportation facilities. In those early days agriculture and hunting furnished the only occupation for the settlers, while today commercial pursuits of every sort and extent are carried on. Then, there was but an imperfect judicial system; now, the well-established and perfectly conducted courts of law.

Prior to the session of the legislature which passed the bill creating Shelby county, the people had favorably considered the proposition to establish the new county and appointed a committee to go to Vandalia, which was then the state capital, and secure the enactment of the bill before spoken of, a copy of which we append:

An act creating Shelby county:—

Sec. 1.—Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois represented in the general assembly, that all that tract of country lying within the following boundaries, to-wit: beginning at the northwest corner of Sec. 19, in township nine north, range one east, of the third principal meridian, then north on the said meridian line, thirty miles to the northwest cor-



ALBERT ALLEN.



BENJAMIN F. WILSON.

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ner of section 19, in township fourteen north; thence east thirty-six miles to the northeast corner of section 24, township fourteen north, range six east; thence south thirty miles to the southeast corner of section 13; thence west thirty-six miles to the place of beginning, shall constitute a new county, to be called Shelby.

Sec. 2.—For the purpose of fixing the permanent seat of justice of said county, the following persons are appointed commissioners, to-wit: John Hopton, Easton Whiton, and Wm. L. D. Ewing, who, or a majority of them, being first duly sworn before some justice of the peace of this state, faithfully to take into view the convenience of the people, the situation of the settlement, with an eye to future population, and the eligibility of the place; shall meet at the house of Barnet Bone, in said county, on the first Monday of April next, and proceed to examine and determine on a permanent seat of justice for said county, and designate the same: Provided, the proprietor or proprietors of said land shall give to the county for the purpose of erecting public buildings, a quantity of land, not less than twenty acres, to be laid out in a square form, and divided into lots of a convenient size, and sold for the purpose of erecting public buildings in said county; but, should the proprietor or proprietors refuse to make a donation as aforesaid, then, in that case, it shall be the duty of the said commissioners to fix on some other place for the seat of justice, as convenient as may be, to the place first selected: Provided, the proprietor or proprietors of the land, shall make a donation of twenty acres of land, to be laid out as above provided for; which place, when so fixed upon, shall be the county seat of said county.

The said commissioners shall certify their proceeding to the next county commissioners'

court, to be held in and for said county, which court shall cause a record to be made thereof in their books.

Sec. 3.—Until public buildings shall be erected for the purpose, the court shall be held at the house of Barnet Bone, in said county.

Sec. 4.—An election shall be held at the house of the said Barnet Bone, on the second Monday of April next, for one sheriff, one coroner, and three county commissioners for said county, who shall hold their offices until the next general election, and until their successors are qualified: which said election shall be conducted in all respects agreeably to the provisions of the law regulating elections. Provided, that the qualified voters present, may elect from their number present, three qualified voters, to act as the judges of said election, who shall appoint two qualified voters to act as clerks.

Sec. 5.—It shall be the duty of the clerk of the circuit of said county, to give public notice at least ten days previous to the election, to be held on the second Monday in April next; and in case there shall be no clerk in said county, it shall be the duty of the recorder, or any justice of the peace residing within the limits of said county, and commissioned a justice of the peace for the county of Fayette, to give notice of the time and place of holding said election.

Sec. 6.—The citizens, of the said county of Shelby, are hereby entitled in all respects to the same rights and privileges as are allowed, in general, to the other counties of this state.

Sec. 7.—The commissioners appointed to locate the seat of justice of said county of Shelby, shall receive the sum of one dollar and fifty cents per day, for each day necessarily spent in discharging the duties imposed on them by this act, to be allowed by the county commissioners'

HISTORIC SKETCH.

court, and to be paid out of the treasury of said county.

Sec. 8.—All that tract of country lying north of the aforesaid county of, and within the present boundaries of the county of Fayette, shall be attached to the said county of Shelby until otherwise provided by law; and for members of the general assembly, said county of Shelby and the attached parts thereof, shall vote with Fayette, Bond, and Montgomery counties; and the clerks of the counties of Bond, Fayette, Montgomery, and Shelby, shall meet at Vandalia, the county seat of Fayette, to compare the number of votes for senator and representative to the general assembly, and sign the necessary certificates of election at Vandalia, and forward the same to the person or persons entitled to such certificate of election.

Sec. 9.—The county seat of Shelby county, when established, shall be called Shelbyville.

Sec. 10.—The north half of township nine north, range one west, all of townships ten, eleven and twelve, north, range one west of the third principal meridian, shall be attached to the county of Montgomery; and the citizens within the tract of country above described, shall have the same rights and privileges, as the citizens of the county now or shall hereafter have.

Sec. 11.—The said county of Shelby shall be, and is hereby attached to the second judicial circuit.

This act to take effect from its passage.

Approved, January 23, 1827.

NINIAN EDWARDS, Governor.

LOCATING OF COUNTY SEAT.

The commissioners, who were appointed to locate the site for the county seat of Shelby,

with their party, in due time entered upon the work. They came into this region in an ox wagon, which contained not only themselves and their camping outfit, but a barrel of "Old Rye" as well. This had been given them with the stipulation that they were not to open it until they had decided upon a desirable site. After hunting in different localities for miles around, they came back to the place where Shelbyville now stands, and which was then covered with heavy timber and thick brush. On the side of the hill was a fine spring of clear, cold water, which, we believe, is now covered by the C. & E. I. depot. After driving a stake just where the court house is built, thus designating the site where it should stand, they immediately rolled the barrel from the wagon and knocked in the head. Each was supplied with a tin cup, and began at once to relieve his thirst, which, it can be imagined, had become very great. In the words of one of the party, who told the tale, "by morning there was at least a quarter of an acre of hazel brush wallowed down." Thus was the county seat of Shelby located.

We add the report of these commissioners, which they rendered to the county commissioners' court at its meeting in April, 1827:

REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS LOCATING COUNTY SEAT.

State of Illinois, Shelby County.

We, the undersigned commissioners, appointed under the authority of the Act creating Shelby county, to locate the seat of justice for the same, being sworn as required by said Act, did meet at Barnet Bone's at the time specified in said law, and from thence proceeded to examine the country, with a view to the selection of a proper and suitable site for said seat of jus-

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tice, and having satisfied ourselves upon the subject, to unanimously select and agree upon the E. 1-2 of S. E. 1-4, of Sec. 7, Town 11 North, Range 4 East, as the tract upon which the town of Shelbyville shall be placed.—The public square.—A hickory stake, which the said commissioners drove down on said tract, standing between three red oaks—one at the distance of five paces in a northwest direction, one five paces in a northeast direction, and the other four paces in a southeast direction.

Given under our hands this fifth day of April, 1827.

EASTON WHITON,
WM. LEE D. EWING.
JOHN HOPTON,

Commissioners.

We also copy a couple of other documents relative to the affair, which will be of interest:

The above tract of land has been entered in the land office at Vandalia, by Robt. K. McLaughlin, James M. Duncan, and James T. B. Stapp, who have severally agreed to make collectively the donation required by law, April 5, 1827. WILLIAM LEE D. EWING.
State of Illinois, Shelby County.

Be it remembered, that on this day personally came before William Hall, Senr., a Justice of the Peace, in and for said county, John Hopton, Easton Whiton and William Lee D. Ewing, commissioners under the law creating Shelby county, to locate the seat of justice for the same, and took the necessary oath required by said law.

Given under my hand this 2nd day of April, 1827. WILLIAM HALL, SENR., J. P.

FIRST ELECTION.

In accordance with the provision of the law establishing the county, the first election was

held at the house of Barnet Bone on the second Monday of April, 1827, and the following officers were elected: John Whitley, Levi Casey, William Weeger, commissioners; William Williamson, sheriff; Isaac Martin, coroner.

FIRST MEETING OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT.

The first meeting of the county commissioners' court was also held at the house of Barnet Bone, and Joseph Oliver was appointed county clerk, in addition to which he performed the duties of county recorder and circuit clerk. William Williamson was appointed surveyor, and it was he who laid out the county seat. It was at the first session of the court that the bond of McLaughlin, Duncan and Stapp, for the donation to locate the seat of justice for the county, in the penal sum of two hundred dollars, was received by the court and filed by the clerk of the same.

Asa Ledbetter received the appointment of county treasurer, and gave bond in the sum of two thousand dollars, with Shelton Alphin and Richard Thomason as sureties.

The above proceedings constitute the principal part of the business transacted at the first term of the commissioners' court.

FIRST MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION.

In this connection it will be well to mention and transcribe from the official records an account of the first meeting of the board of supervisors and organization under the new township organization law, which was passed by the legislature of 1849, previous to which township

HISTORIC SKETCH.

organization had been unknown in this state. The first law relative to this was repealed two years after its passage, and a new enactment took its place. In 1859, the people of this county adopted this form of government, which has been in vogue through all the years since. During its December term, 1859, the county court appointed James Cutler, E. G. Shallenberger and Benjamin F. Frazer, commissioners to divide the county of Shelby into towns agreeably to the statute to provide for township organization. Below, we give an extract from the official record of the first meeting of the board of supervisors, containing the names of the townships into which the county had been divided, together with a list of the supervisors elected therefrom:

"Agreeable to a petition signed by a majority of the supervisors elected on the 3rd day of April last, requiring the clerk of the county court of Shelby county to publish a call in the Okaw Democrat, requiring the members elect of said board to meet at the court house in Shelbyville, on Friday, the 8th day of June, 1860, for the purpose of organizing and attending to any other business lawfully brought before the board."

Agreeable to the request of said petitioners, the call was duly published in said Okaw Democrat, and on the 8th day of June, 1860, the following members of said board met at the clerk's office, in the court house, in the town of Shelbyville, and answered to their names respectively, to-wit:

Name.	Township.
John R. Warren.....	Tower Hill
William B. Travis.....	Rural
George F. Hutchinson.....	Flat Branch
John Freeman.....	Moweaqua
William I. Milton	Dry Point

John C. Selby	Rose
David Ewing.....	Ridge
John Casey	Pickaway
William J. F. Howe.....	Holland
E. G. Shallenberger.....	Shelbyville
Alfred Francisco	Okaw
William Manning.....	Prairie
Joseph M. Brown	Richland
Alexander Walker	Windsor
William B. Bennett	Ash Grove

On motion of William B. Travis, Alexander Walker was nominated and duly chosen chairman of the board pro tem, whereupon the chairman called the board to order.

On motion of William B. Travis, it was agreed to that the petition for a call of the board of supervisors above alluded to, should be spread upon the journal of said board, to-wit:

A CALL FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO MEET AND ORGANIZE.

We, the undersigned supervisors, elected for the county of Shelby, Illinois, on Monday, the 3rd day of April, last, do hereby request the clerk of the county court for the county of Shelby, to give notice, by publication in the Okaw Democrat, calling the members of the said board of supervisors to meet at the court house in Shelbyville, on Friday, the 8th day of June, 1860, for the purpose of organizing according to law, and to transact any other business that may be lawfully brought before them.

(Signed by supervisors elected.)

It was then moved and seconded that the members elected produce their certificates of election whereupon the following supervisors laid before the chairman their certificates and evidence of election, to-wit:

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(Here follow names of supervisors as given above.)

On motion of William B. Bennett, it was agreed to that said board now proceed to elect, by ballot, a permanent chairman of the board.

Whereupon, John Casey, Esq., received ten votes for chairman; scattering, four votes.

Immediately following this business, came the adoption of the rules of order, a score or more, well calculated to preserve the decorum of that august body and to govern their action while in session.

The chairman appointed the following standing committees:

Finance:—John R. Warren, William B. Bennett, and Alexander Walker.

Claims:—E. G. Shallenberger, David Ewing, and John C. Selby.

Equalization:—W. J. F. Howe, John Freeman, William B. Travis, James Brownlee, and Joseph M. Brown.

Roads and Bridges:—James McNutt, Alfred Francisco, William Manning.

Public Buildings:—George T. Hutchinson, Jefferson Williamson, William A. Milton.

James Cutler, E. G. Shallenberger and B. Frazer were allowed ten dollars each, for services as commissioners to lay off the county into townships; a remuneration none too great, considering the arduous task they had to perform.

The supervisors were allowed two dollars each per day for the meeting. Burrel Roberts, the clerk, was allowed six dollars for two days at court. Jacob Culter, sheriff, was allowed two dollars for two days at court.

At the regular meeting in September, the following supervisors produced certificates of election: Jefferson Williamson, Alexander Walker, James McNutt and James Brownlee. At

this meeting it was announced that John C. Selby was dead, and Edward Roessler was duly appointed supervisor from Rose township to fill the vacancy.

Of the above named supervisors, who constituted the first board of Shelby county, John Freeman was the first republican chairman, being subsequently appointed to that responsible position. Should this roll of supervisors be called now, William Bennett would be the only one of them to respond, the others having passed away.

NAME.

Closely identified with the organization of the county, is the name thereof, which was not left for the people more directly interested to decide upon, but was given by the same act of the legislature which established the county. This act specified that the county should be called Shelby. This was in honor of Isaac Shelby, whose name was, at that time, held in remembrance by the entire country. Mr. Shelby was born in Maryland in 1750. He served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and afterwards held many offices in civil life. In 1771 he moved to the west, and three years later served as a lieutenant in an expedition against the Indians. At the beginning of the Revolution he became a captain of a military company in Virginia. Later, he was placed in charge of the commissary department, for the frontier. In 1779 he was elected to the house of delegates of Virginia, and soon afterwards received a major's commission, and the next year was promoted to the rank of colonel, as recognition of his bravery at the battle of King's Mountain. In 1780 he received a vote of thanks and a sword from the legislature of North Carolina.

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of which he was elected a member in 1781—1782. In 1781 he served in Marion's company, and on the organization of the state of Kentucky, in 1792, he was chosen Governor, and held the office four years. He was again governor of that state from 1812 to 1816. In 1813 Governor Shelby joined General Harrison at the head of four thousand Kentuckians, served at the battle of the Thames, and owing to bravery and gallantry displayed at that battle, was presented by Congress with a gold medal. Such in brief is the record of the man of bravery and patriotism for whom Shelby county is named, and from whom the city of Shelbyville derived its name; thus conferring an honor, not upon the man, but upon the county and city themselves.

FIRST COURT HOUSE.

At their regular September meeting in 1827, the county commissioners came to the conclusion that it was essential to the proper transaction of business, to have a suitable building erected for the purpose. As may be supposed, the requirements were not great, and after a good deal of discussion about ways and means and plans, it was decided that a log building, of the style and size described below, should be erected.

The building, which was the first court house of Shelby county, was built upon the east half of lot number five, in block number one, a few rods southeast of where the present structure stands. As has been indicated, it was built of hewn logs, and was twenty feet wide by twenty-four feet long. The first story was but nine feet high in the clear, while the second story was but five feet high, to the top of the wall

plate; thus it was about fourteen feet from the ground to the eaves of the building. The roof was of ordinary hand-made shingles. There were two doors below, also two windows of fifteen lights each, with shutters, and in the upper story there were two windows of like dimensions. The floors of the two rooms were planked. The upper part of the building was reached by steps placed on the outside.

William Hall, Sr., was the contractor who did the work, as he was the lowest bidder, and agreed to have the building completed by the first Monday in April of the following year. He received \$110 as full remuneration for the construction of the building.

In the early part of 1829 a number of improvements were added to this building. This was in the stead of a new court house, the erection of which had been seriously talked of and planned. But a number of the prominent citizens petitioned for "the procrastination of the building of the court house," for the following reasons:

First.—One-fourth of the whole amount of money necessary for the erection of the proposed building was not on hand and could not be secured.

Second.—The "county paper" would be precious in value at least three-fourths, "which would in a measure destroy the faith of the country, and most probably ruin the undertakers."

The above was concluded by the suggestion of the petitioners that the commissioners, to meet the growing need of more room and greater convenience, "build some little addition; say, to build a shed on the south side of the present court house, and to saw out the logs on the south side, and to remove the judge's bench

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near the center of the same." The prayer of the petitioners was granted, the "procrastination of the building" was submitted to, and the suggestion was acted upon. The alterations were made by J. W. Johnson, who agreed to do the work for \$39.25. In this connection it will be interesting to read a petition, signed by twenty-seven men, which we reproduce below, just as it was written nearly seventy-two years ago:

March 3d, 1829.

"To the Honorable County Commissioners of Shelby county, now in session:

"We, the under sign'd Citizens of Shelby county, Beg leave to petition your honorable Body, that you make such allowance to J. W. Johnston as may be considered the actual worth of the worke and labour Done on the court house, and likewise for all other Extra work over and above what his bond calls for.

"Believing as we do that the Court house was let out considerably lower than any man could afford to Do the work; and in all Cases where Individuals Do work for the public in a way that they are like to sink money that should be Remunerated out of public funds. we Recommend the above as one of these very Cases where the Individual has sunk money and we Confidently hope that your honorable Body will make such allowances as may be considered to amount to the actual value of the work agreeable to the Judgement of workmen."

It may be readily surprised that the prayer of these petitioners was granted, for in those "good old days" it was not the predominant policy of one to take an unjust advantage of another; but kindly, brotherly feeling which prevailed inspired them to render unto each other that, which, in their unselfish minds, they deemed right and just.

SECOND COURT HOUSE.

The growing need for more offices and an enlarged court room, soon rendered the old building inadequate, and in 1832 a new court house was erected, according to the following plan, which we produce verbatim, as the unique construction of words and sentences may be of passing interest:

"The form of a Court house for the County of Shelby, Ill.

"The said Court house to be 40 feet square. Bilt of brick to Commence with Rock 18 Inches under ground, and raised one foot above the ground, with rock well hammer Dressed above the ground; the walls to be Twenty-three feet high above the ground, with Two Dores lower in Storey, and Ten Twenty-four light windows in the lower Story, and Twelve Eighteen light windows in the upper story. The lower story of said walls to be Twenty-seven inches thick, and the upper story Eighteen Inches thick with the under flower laid with brick. Each of those windows to be filled with Fraim, with Timber Six Inches Square. Dores and windows with pannel. Jams and pannel shutters to each Dore and a post set in the centre of the house, to be set on a firm pillow of rock; said post to be completely Turned in a workmanlike manner, to be Eighteen Inches in Diameter; and one girder, forty feet long. Twelve by Fourteen Inches thick, to rest on that post; a set of Joists for the second floor, three by Ten Inches, to be let In Two feet apart from centre to centre; the second floore to be laid of oak plank, Tounged and grooved and laid down rough. A Second girder Ten Inches by Ten, forty feet long; a Second post Twelve Inch in Diameter turned like the other and set over the other post for the Second girder to rest on. A

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Second Set of Joists the same size of the other, 3 by 10 inches; the roof to be sheeted and shingled, with walnut or oak shingles, boxed and cornished all round plain. The walls to be plastered, and overhead sealed; the windows all to have venisian blinds; the upper story to split in 3 rooms to be divided with plank petitions. Two Chimneys with 2 fire places below and two above, and 2 artificial funnels at the other End of the house, all to be done in workmanlike manner. Also Judges Seat, Jury box, Sheriff's box, etc., etc."

A couple of years after this a number of alterations and additions were made, a few of which we give:

The judge's bench was to be nine feet long, and three feet, six inches wide on the floor; with a writing board three feet long and eighteen inches wide. The Clerk's desk was made three feet, six inches long, and two feet six inches wide, with twenty-six pigeon holes inclosed with a desk lid door. Six jury benches were built, each twelve feet long. There were also constructed a sheriff's box in each of two corners of the bar, three feet by three feet in the clear, with a suitable writing board for each. The criminals' box was made four feet square in the clear. The whole cost of the improvements on the building was six hundred nineteen dollars, and the work was satisfactorily accomplished by Nelson R. Jones. In 1837 a neat cupola was added, which improved the appearance of the building to a great extent. This court house served the purpose for which it was erected, very nicely for about thirty years, when it was deemed advisable by many interested parties, to build a larger and more substantial building, which would more nearly meet the demands of the county's business. In accordance with this very general opinion efforts were made

to secure an appropriation for that purpose; but all movements in that direction proved futile until in July of 1879, when the board of supervisors, who had heretofore been conservative, yielded to the popular demand and made the appropriation necessary to build the present beautiful structure. We append the following record of their official action, which made possible the

THIRD COURT HOUSE.

On the 3d of July, 1879, Supervisor W. O. Robertson offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That it is hereby deemed expedient, because of the dilapidated and unsafe condition of the present county building, to build a new court house in and for Shelby county, not to exceed in cost the sum of seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000), and

"Resolved, That a committee of members of this board be, and the same are constituted a building committee, whose duty it shall be to fix upon and procure a site for such court house, to adopt plans and specifications for the same, not to exceed said cost, and to report their proceedings herein to this board, subject to its approval at their meeting in September next; and

"Resolved, That William M. Wright, Harmon Kelley, Skelton Birkett, Nelson Neil, W. A. Carlisle be and are hereby appointed said building committee."

This was adopted by a vote of twelve for, only seven voting against it.

At the meeting of the board in September, the following resolution was proposed by Supervisor Hillard, and adopted:

"Resolved, That the sum of seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000) be and the same is hereby

HISTORIC SKETCH.

appropriated for the purpose of erecting a court house in the city of Shelbyville, in Shelby county, Illinois, and

"Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five cents upon each one hundred dollars' worth of real estate and personal property in said county as assessed for the year 1879, and equalized by the State Board of Equalization for said year, be and the same is hereby levied for the purpose of raising a fund to carry out the objects of the said appropriation; and that the clerk of the county court be and is hereby ordered to compute and extend upon the tax collectors' books of said county for the year 1879, the levy of twenty-five cents aforesaid against all the real estate and personal property of said county, and that the said levy of twenty-five cents on the one hundred dollars be extended under the heading of "Court House Tax," and that the same, when collected, shall by the county treasurer be kept as a separate fund for the purposes for which the same is levied."

Under this resolution, the amount of money raised for 1879 was \$19,900.06.

The limit of time for the completion of the building was December 1st, 1881. This made prompt action necessary upon the part of the building committee. In the selection of this committee a wise choice had been made, and the men who composed it were found equal to the task before them. Hon Wm. M. Wright, chairman, made the following report to the board, it was adopted, and, in accordance with the plans, specifications, etc., contained therein, the work upon the magnificent new court house was soon in progress.

REPORT OF BUILDING COMMITTEE.

Whereas, The honorable board of supervisors of Shelby county, State of Illinois, re-

solved to build a court house for said county, proceeded to appoint the following gentlemen, a committee to procure and locate a site and adopt a plan for said court house, viz: Wm. M. Wright, Harmon Kelley, Skelton Birkett, Nelson Neil, and W. A. Carlisle.

"The committee, after mature consideration, located the site for said new court house on the original court house square, to be built on a line of Main street, north of the present old court house.

"Said new court house to be constructed on the following general plans and specifications, viz: The size of said building to be seventy-six (76) by one hundred and ten (110) feet, fronting to the south, with basement and two floors above basement—with twelve foot hall through full length of building, from front entrance to rear entrance, on the first floor: said first floor to be so constructed as to accommodate the circuit clerk, county clerk, probate court, sheriff, county treasurer, school commissioner, and county court; the second floor to be so constructed as to accommodate the circuit court, supervisors, grand jury, petit jury, witness-room, judge's private room, lawyers' consultation room, and such other rooms as space may permit.

"The floors are to be reached by front stairways; the circuit court room, petit jury room, and other private rooms on the second floor, to be reached by private stairways in the rear of the building. The water closets to be located in the basement. The gas pipes, steam pipes and water pipes to be placed in the construction of the building; fire places to be in all the rooms; to be heated by steam; boilers to be erected outside of main building; proper and sufficient sewerage to be constructed.

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"The whole building to be fire-proof; to be built of stone, brick (pressed brick), and iron; all the floors to be of tile or marble; a burglar-proof vault to be constructed in the office of the treasurer. The whole not to exceed seventy thousand dollars in cost. The stone to be used in said building to be procured in Illinois, Missouri, or Indiana, or from either or all of said States, as may be most practical.

"Resolved, That the above plan and general specifications be submitted to five competent architects, to be selected by the committee; that a premium of three hundred dollars (\$300) be offered to the aforesaid competing architects, for the best set of drawings for the proposed new court house, which shall be in accordance with the above named plan. Such drawings shall include a correct view, in perspective, of such new building, from a point southwest of said building.

"Said drawings shall include full, complete and accurate plans of such new building, in all parts showing all the necessary details of the work, together with working plans suitable for the use of mechanics or other builders, during the construction thereof, so drawn and represented as to be easily understood; and also accurate bills showing the exact amount of all the different kinds of material to be used in the erection thereof, to accompany said plans; and also full and complete specifications of the work to be done, showing the manner and style in which the same will be required to be done, and giving such directions for the same as will enable any competent builder to carry them out, and afford to bidders all needful information to enable them to understand what will be required in the construction of said building, and make a full, accurate and complete estimate of each item of

expense, and the entire aggregate cost of said court house when completed.

Provided, however, That the working plans above referred to and the bill showing the exact amount of the material to be used, and also the full and complete specifications of the work to be done, showing the manner and style of the same, and giving such directions as will enable any builder to carry them out, and afford bidders all information above referred to, shall not be required to be made out and furnished until after the award of the aforesaid premium shall be decided by the board of supervisors and that after such decision, the successful competitor shall immediately proceed to complete the same in accordance with the terms of this resolution, and said premium of three hundred dollars (\$300) shall be advanced to such successful competitor, and shall be deducted from a compensation to be allowed him of five per centum upon the aggregate cost of said building; upon the execution by and between him and the board of supervisors, of a contract prescribing his duties, obligations, and compensation as supervising architect of said building, and the execution of a proper bond, with acceptable security, to the board of supervisors in such amount as may be by them prescribed, not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the faithful performance of his duties, as such supervising architect, in the erection of said building in accordance with the plans and specifications thereof adopted.

"Resolved, That the drawings as submitted must be furnished by the tenth day of September, 1879, and must be accompanied by estimates of all the work and material necessary in the construction of the proposed building, made sufficiently in detail to enable the board of supervisors to verify them, and approximate

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closely to the probable cost, and accuracy in detail in this respect will be regarded as important in determining the award of the premiums.

"Resolved, That a premium of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) shall be awarded and paid to the drawings and elevations second in merit, the board of supervisors reserving the right to use any part of said plans and specifications of second merit, for and in consideration of said award of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150).

"Shelbyville, Illinois, August 8, 1879.

"WM. H. WRIGHT,
"HARMON KELLEY,
Signed, "SKELETON BIRKETT, Sr.
"NELSON NEIL,
"W. A. CARLISLE."

Before the completion of the work of this committee, death claimed W. A. Carlisle, and the vacancy thus created was filled by the appointment of T. J. Graybill, as the fifth member of the committee.

A more detailed description of the beautiful structure, which is now the county capitol, will be of interest, even though it may have been viewed repeatedly by very many of our readers.

Mr. O. H. Placey, of Chicago, was the successful competitor among the architects, and it was upon his plans and specifications that Thomas and Hugh Caldwell, of Ottawa, Ill., erected the court house which is so pleasing to the eye, and a source of pride to the citizens of Shelby.

The building is rectangular in shape, being 110 feet in length from north to south, and 76 feet wide. The height from the ground to the cornice is 58 feet, while the height to the apex of the dome is 124 feet. Above the eave, one on each corner, are four magnificent pavilions,

each one being 16 feet square and 16 feet high. These add largely to the pleasing effect of the entire structure. The pavilions and dome are constructed of iron and brick, and are surmounted by artistically designed iron castings. The main part of the outside finish of the building is of St. Louis pressed brick, with Bedford and Joliet trimmings of stone. Galvanized iron form the cornices. The basement is most substantial, being all stone, with floors of marble tiling, laid on solid masonry and girders of iron.

Broad, handsome stone steps approach the southern entrance, which is the principal one to the court house, there being another at the north. On the east side of the broad hall are the offices of the county judge, county clerk, treasurer and sheriff, while upon the west side are those of the circuit clerk, superintendent of schools and master in chancery. In the basement are storage rooms for old official records and documents, and the abstract offices of Craig & Garis.

Four columns of stone, of handsome and elegant pattern, support the pediments. The bases and capitols are of Bedford stone, while the shafts are of Joliet stone; the height of each column, base and capitol inclusive, is twenty-three feet. The front pediment rests upon eight columns, and has a greater projection than those on the side. Statues of the Goddess of Liberty and of Justice occupy niches on the south side, of the second story.

Great credit is due to the men who were the prime movers in the erection of this beautiful and valuable structure. As chairman of the building committee, Hon. Wm. M. Wright gave much of his time and attention to the work, and though other members of the committee should receive proper credit, still to Mr. Wright belongs the "lion's share." Few counties in the

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State of Illinois can boast of a more beautiful, substantial and conveniently arranged court house than that which stands in Shelbyville.

FIRST GAOL.

It is a matter greatly to be deplored that the criminal element entered into fair Shelby, making necessary the erection of the penal institution, of which we now speak. But so it is, the wide world o'er, and very early in the history of our county it was deemed necessary to provide a place for the safe-keeping and punishment of the lawless ones. At the beginning of 1829 the county commissioners ordered the building of a jail on lot eight, block number one, of Shelbyville, of which the following is a description:

The timbers entering into the construction of the walls were well hewed, eight inches thick, with the edges squared, that they might fit together nicely. The building was thirteen feet six inches in length, and the same in breadth, there-by making of it a square enclosure. The lower floor was let into the ground about twelve inches, and from this foundation to the eaves of the roof was about sixteen feet, thereby making it possible to have two stories, each of about eight feet in height. The gable ends were weatherboarded, and the roof shingled. The lower part of the structure was composed of a double wall, with a space of ten inches between, into which were put upright poles, shaved smooth and placed closely together. The ceiling of the second story consisted of squared timbers, six inches thick, laid closely together. Two windows only furnished light for the lower story, one at the north and the other at the south, and were four and one-half feet from the ground. There were also but two windows in

the upper story, small affairs, being only twelve by six inches; but they were made secure by grates and iron bars one inch in thickness and three inches apart. In the upper story was a door two feet wide and four feet high and a trap door in the middle of the second floor, two by three feet in size. Crude as this may seem to us in this, the last year of the century, still that little jail answered every purpose for which it was erected, as well as do the massive stone structures now built for like purposes. J. W. Johnson was the builder of the above, which was completed according to contract early in the year 1830.

After about nine years of use, however, this first jail was found to be inadequate for the requirements of the county, and at the September term of court, 1839, a contract was entered into with John Stone and Samuel Wilson, to erect upon the site of the first jail,

GAOL NUMBER TWO.

This new building was also constructed of hewn logs and was twenty-two feet long by fourteen feet wide. It was composed of double walls, built one foot apart. This aperture was filled with upright timbers one foot square. A partition was placed through the centre of the building, making two rooms on each floor. Each room had one window, which was securely barred. A trap door was placed in the centre of the upper floor, which was two feet by two and one-half, and strongly bound with iron. The outer door to the lower story was secured by iron bolts, jail lock, and spiked with iron spikes about two inches apart, making it impossible for a prisoner to cut his way through even though he should be possessed of a good knife.

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By the side of this building, and of the same height and under the same shingle roof, was erected a frame jailor's residence, twenty-two feet long by twenty feet wide. It was weather-boarded and had one door in the south side, with a window each side of the door, and two windows in the west side. These were twelve-light windows, with 8 by 10 glass, quite a contrast to those in the jail building. A partition crossed the frame building, with a door in the same. The floors were of plank. Stair steps were built, commencing at the partition of the log building, between the log wall and said partition, running north up to the upper floor of the log building, the steps reaching from the wall to the partition. A brick chimney stood on the north of the building, connecting with one fireplace below. The whole was built of durable timber, completed in 1840, and for which the contractors received \$745.00.

GAOL NUMBER THREE.

In 1856 William Hidden received the contract for building this jail, and completed it in the following year, the cost of which was nearly \$5,000. It was a two-story brick building, twenty-eight feet wide by thirty-eight feet long, and consisted of a jailor's residence of four rooms, a debtor's cell, four single, wooden cells, with iron doors, and four double iron cells. The cells were in the upper story of the building, with a hallway or corridor of about four feet in width on both the north and south sides, with a narrow passage connecting the two corridors on the west side of the building. Six windows were on the north side, five on the west, and five on the south, with one door to the west, another to the east, and one on the south.

Seven years after the erection of this building, a contract was given Samuel Rector, the

requirements of which were that he should encase the four wooden cells with boiler iron. These cells were seven feet square by six and one-half feet high. This alteration added \$3,000 to the original cost of the jail, which was \$4,989.46, making the entire cost to the county \$7,989.46.

THE PRESENT GAOL.

The building mentioned in the preceding paragraph was deemed suitable for the needs of the county for a number of years, but later, many complaints were heard regarding its insufficient ventilation, and its unsafe condition. The predominating sentiment on the board of supervisors, and amongst others who were interested in the matter, was that a new jail was needed; and as a result of this wide-spread sentiment, the following resolution was presented in the September, 1891, meeting of the board of supervisors:

"Resolved by this Board, That the chair appoint a committee of three members of this board, with the clerk of this board to visit and investigate some of the modern jails in this or adjoining states, and ascertain as near as can be the best plans and probable cost of same, with a view to the erection of a jail in this county, and the said committee report at the January, 1892, meeting of the board."

It may be determined from this and the following documents, which we transcribe from the official records, that no efforts were spared to secure for the county a jail which would be among the best procurable. That which immediately follows is the

REPORT OF GRAND JURY

of the October, 1891, term of circuit court, and

HISTORIC SKETCH.

presented to the board of supervisors at their meeting in the following January:

"To the Honorable James Creighton, Circuit Judge, Sir:

"We, the undersigned grand jurors, at the October term of the circuit court, A. D. 1891, would respectfully represent that we have visited the county jail in a body, and after a careful inspection of the same, do hereby report the condition, as follows, to-wit:

"We find the jail neatly whitewashed, and the jailor has everything in as good condition as can be made under the circumstances. We find the jail to be an old, dilapidated structure, seemingly constructed in an early stage of the world; and we find that the prisoners are insecure, and the jail is unsafe, owing to the fact that the old board sheds, belonging to the livery stables, are connected with the jail on the east; and we find that the old sheds and seemingly cow stables, are all attached to or in some way connecting with the jail; and we find that the old buildings thus connected with the jail, together with the bad ventilation, creates a terrible stench, which we believe to be unwholesome. And we are of the opinion that the old sheds and boards are extremely liable to take fire at any time, in which event the inmates would perish before they could be removed.

"We, therefore, earnestly recommend the honorable board of supervisors, at their next meeting, to make the necessary appropriation to build a new county jail, and to proceed to build and complete the same as soon as can be done; and until such new jail is built, we would recommend the sheriff, especially in hot weather, to remove all persons to some other county jail, owing to the unwholesome ventilation and the terrible stench, which is equal to the stench of a menagerie of wild beasts.

"And we further report by saying that we consider the county jail as being in very bad repair, and not worth repairing, and we declare it a public nuisance."

This report was well calculated to agitate to a greater degree the feasibility and necessity of a new place of confinement for the criminal class, and the board of supervisors could not well do otherwise than entertain and adopt, at its January, 1892, meeting, the following

RESOLUTION TO BUILD A NEW JAIL.

"Whereas, the present county jail is unsafe and insecure for the detention of prisoners, and the improper construction of the building, its ceilings, insufficient ventilation, and other defects, are circumstances which are considered to be injurious to the health of its inmates;

We, therefore, consider it to be expedient and necessary to build a new jail, that is adequate and in conformity with the needs of this county.

Therefore, be it Resolved, To build a new jail of modern design, with latest improvements, at a cost that shall not exceed the sum of \$12,000, and that we appoint a committee of five members of this board as a building committee.

It shall be the duty of said committee to choose and fix upon a site for such jail, and to obtain plans and specifications for the same, the cost not to exceed the sum above mentioned, and then report at the next meeting of the board of supervisors."

Upon motion of C. W. Stewart the above resolution was adopted, and the chairman appointed the following named gentlemen to act as building committee:

C. W. Stewart, Samuel Fuget, B. F. Moberly, James Barton and Solomon Yantis.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Supervisor Stewart then presented the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"Be it resolved by this board, that an appropriation be and the same is hereby made of \$12,000, to build a county jail."

The amount thus provided was sufficient to cover the cost of the handsome and commodious structure of modern architecture, now used for jail and sheriff's residence.

That portion of the building used as a dwelling by the family of the sheriff, contains seven large rooms, four below and three above. In addition to these, there is a basement of three rooms, besides the boiler room; and an attic, which, however, is not used. The floors of the basement rooms are of brick and concrete. The foundation is of stone, and the walls of pressed brick, as, indeed, are the walls of the entire structure. The bath and toilet room is on the second floor, and hot and cold water is supplied both up stairs and down. The entire building is heated by steam radiators being placed in each of the rooms. In two of the rooms of the first floor there are grates, which add to the comfort of the home during the coolness of the spring and autumn, when the furnace is not in use. And even when heat is supplied from some other source a grate fire can never be supplanted by any modern device, in point of homely cheeriness.

The entrance to the sheriff's residence is found on the south side, opening from a broad and pleasant veranda into a spacious hallway, from which doorways lead into the parlor and into the dining room, and from which a stairway leads to the rooms on the second floor. Another short passage way leads from dining room to kitchen, which latter is within the jail, proper. A good pantry is between the two. On

the south side of the residence portion of the building, are nine windows and one door; five windows on the east, and on the west side, three windows.

The inside walls of the jail are made of iron, covered with plaster, and are considered fire proof. The foundations are of concrete. The entrance is on the west side, and is well guarded with double doors of steel, with round iron bars on the outside. The entrance is approached by a walk and steps of concrete, and, in itself, has a concrete floor. From this little room a stairway leads to the basement, and another, with iron steps, to the second floor. The most commonly used portion of the jail is that on the first floor, where there are six steel cages, one of which is used as bath room and closet. These cages are about eight feet high, and the doors secured by patent locks—a perpendicular bar running from the top to the bottom of each, and worked by levers at one side. By this means it is possible to secure each door without approaching it. In addition to these bars, padlocks are used as an extra precaution. The cages are arranged in double rows, three in each row. Between them and the outer wall of the large room in which they are placed, is a corridor about four feet in width, and one about eight feet wide running between the two rows, and from which the cages are entered. The material used in the construction of these cages, is saw and file proof.

On the second floor, immediately over the kitchen and entrance, are four cells of common iron, two on each side of a passage way about six feet wide. One of these is used as a bath room, and in each one is found the requisite toilet appliances. The floors of these cells, and that of the corridor, are of concrete. In each of these cells there is a window, guarded securely

HISTORIC SKETCH.

by a double set of bars, those inside being round, and the outer ones being flat. The precaution of the extra bars was made necessary by several almost successful attempts of prisoners, to escape. The large room on the second floor is of the same dimensions as that in which the cages are built, below; and it is so constructed as to make it possible to add a like number of cages, as necessity demands them. It has an iron floor, with the parts, which would comprise the floors of the cages, if they were built, of steel. There are three windows upon each of the east and west sides of the jail, and one on the north, both above and below. These are securely guarded by round iron bars, and outside of them, by perforated iron shutters, thereby making it impossible for friends of prisoners to pass any articles to them, by which they might gain their freedom.

Altogether, this jail is strong and substantial, handsome of design, and is to be placed in the front rank of county jails throughout the state. Sheriff Miner and his able assistants keep it cleanly and in perfect order, and those who are so unfortunate as to be confined within its walls have no cause for complaint in the matter of kindly care and provision for bodily needs, and in comfortable accommodations. Following is

REPORT OF BUILDING COMMITTEE.

January 3, 1893.

"Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of Board of Supervisors:

"Your committee, to whom was referred the matter of contracting for the erection of the county jail and sheriff's residence, according to the plans and specifications, would beg leave to submit the following report on the matters before them:

"We met on the 14th of March, 1892, and let the contract for erection of the county jail and sheriff's residence exclusive of steam heating, to the Champion Iron company, of Kenton, Ohio, for the sum of eleven thousand and nine hundred and fifty-two dollars. At the same time we let the contract of steam heating to J. B. Herrington, of Shelbyville, Illinois, for the sum of eight hundred and fifty dollars.

"The contractors report the work complete, and ready to be received, by the county board, and we would recommend that the board take action on the matter, as it is very expensive as it is now.

"We would further report that we met on March 28, 1892, and sold the old jail and out buildings at public auction, for the sum of one hundred and twenty dollars and seventy-five cents, which amount was duly turned in to county treasurer."

On January 4, 1893, the new jail was inspected, accepted, and taken possession of.

POOR FARM.

We have stated in the previous pages that Shelby county is rich in farm products, and with the comforts and luxuries of life, and that her citizens are those of affluence. Yet the utterance of the "lowly Nazarene," spoken so many hundreds of years ago, is true of our county today: "The poor ye have always with you." And it was with the view of supplying a suitable home for these indigent poor, that the Board of Supervisors, in 1867, appointed a committee to purchase a farm to be used for that purpose. The men who served on that committee were Edward Roessler, W. J. F. Howe and Michael Freyburger. After mature deliberation and diligent search, they finally selected the farm of James A.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Livers, situated four and one-half miles northwest of the City of Shelbyville. The farm consisted of 240 acres, 130 acres being under cultivation and the balance in timber. It was conveniently situated and admirably adapted to the purpose for which it was purchased. This farm cost the county nine thousand, sixty dollars.

After securing the farm, the committee advertised for some one to lease the farm and care for the poor. On the 12th of August, of that year, David Price was appointed superintendent, and entered into an agreement with the board for a term of two years. It necessarily took some time to get the place in readiness for its unfortunate occupants, as more room had to be supplied, together with beds, bedding, and other household furnishings, so that it was some little time later that the first quota of paupers, eleven in number, were received. The terms of agreement by which Mr. Price took charge of the farm and its occupants, stipulated that he was to receive six hundred dollars per year, in addition to what he could make upon the farm, provided the inmates were not more than ten in number. If the number increased, he was to receive two hundred dollars per year additional for each who could not work, and one hundred dollars for each who could perform labor, the county physician deciding as to the physical ability of such paupers; and in the event of a failure of the crops, or their destruction by storm, Price was to receive reasonable compensation for keeping the poor; he was also to provide for the inmates good and wholesome food, and keep the residences in a clean and wholesome condition.

Early in 1868, fifty-six of the citizens of the county signed a petition and presented it to the Board of Supervisors, requesting their immediate attention to alleged mismanagement of the Poor Farm, and the suffering condition of the

poor. A thorough investigation was at once made by the Board, in person, and upon information furnished them, added to what they discovered for themselves, they unanimously decided to relieve the superintendent from further control, which, however, was only amicably arranged by paying him one hundred fifty dollars, and allowing him to retain two-thirds of the wheat crop.

In March, 1868, the farm was let to Francis Winson for one year. In 1869, J. J. Cline rented it for one year for the sum of three hundred eighty-four dollars, the county paying two dollars and forty-five cents per week for the support of each pauper. Subsequently it was determined that it was a better plan to employ a superintendent, at a salary of five hundred dollars a year, to manage the farm and look after the inmates, than to rent a \$9,000 farm for \$834 per year. Thereupon the Board of Supervisors employed such superintendent upon salary, and this plan has been adhered to down to the present. Since that time commodious brick buildings have been erected, and we now have a good, substantial Poor House, capable of housing a large number of the unfortunates who are obliged to seek public aid. The main building is in square form of two stories; a wing, about 120 feet long and 24 feet wide, is attached to the north side. The inmates receive every attention and suitable care from the present superintendent, L. J. Heinz, who is serving his ninth year in his present capacity.

The overseers and superintendents of the Poor Farm have held office as follows:

David Price	1867
Francis Winson	1868
J. J. Cline	1869—1870
John E. Lane	1871—1876
Theodore Allen.	1877—1878

HISTORIC SKETCH.

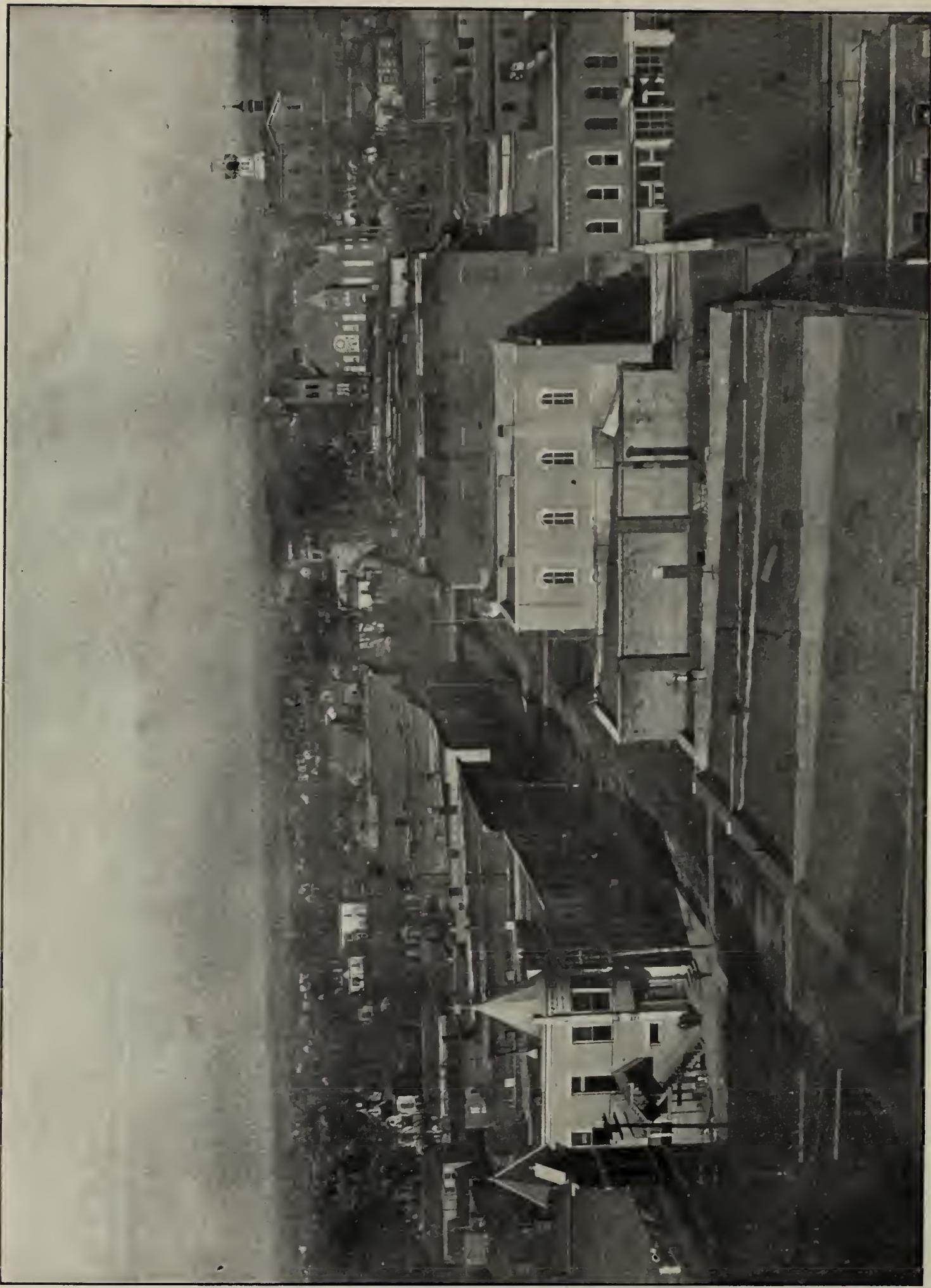
John E. Lane	1879—
Harvey Boyles	—1891
L. J. Heinz.	1892—

We quote from the report of Mr. Heinz to the last meeting of the Board of Supervisors:

"Since my last June report I have received 11 inmates, and 14 have left my custody; discharged, 7; died, 3; homes found for 3; deserted, 1; total, 14. There are at present on the Farm, 39; fifteen males, and twenty-four females, classified as follows: Blind, 4; insane, 3; old and infirm, 5; children, 11; crippled, 2; simple minded, 6; afflicted in various ways, 8; total, 39. The general health of the inmates is good, the Farm is in good condition, and the stock is all looking well. The following products were raised on

the Farm last year: Corn, 3,000 bu.; wheat, 407 bu.; oats, 800 bu.; clover seed, 12 bu.; hay, 30 tons; potatoes, 275 bu.; beans, 3 bu.; onions, 6 bu.; beets, 5 bu.; cabbage, 1,000 heads; butter, 1,100 lbs.; apple and other butters, 87 gal.; canned fruit, 144 gal.; soft soap, 300 gal.; hard soap, 400 lbs.; lard, 125 gal.; apples, 175 bu.; pickles of various kinds, 135 gal.; dried fruits, 8 bu.; and a lot of other garden cereals. I have butchered ten hogs, estimated gross weight, 260 lbs., on average. Am feeding one beef, and nine hogs more, which I intend to kill. Have sold various articles, amounting to \$500.79, which amount I have turned into the county treasury."

This report surely shows a good condition of affairs at the Poor Farm.



LOOKING WEST FROM DOME OF COURT HOUSE, SHELBYVILLE.

GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION—SIZE—TOPOGRAPHY— DRAINAGE—PRIMEVAL CONDITIONS, ETC.

CHAPTER III.

Geographically, Shelby county is situated between parallels of latitude thirty-nine and forty. A small portion of its western boundary is formed by the third principal meridian. It lies a little to the south of the centre of the state, and is surrounded by the following counties, viz: Christian, Macon and Moultrie on the north; Moultrie, Coles and Cumberland on the east; Fayette and Effingham on the south; Christian and Montgomery on the west. From north to south, it measures thirty miles, and from east to west its greatest breadth is thirty-six miles. The area of the county is a little more than eight hundred square miles, and contains about 512,000 acres of choice fertile soil, which ranks amongst the richest and most productive in the state. Especially is this true of the northwestern portion of the county. The leading employments of the people are agricultural pursuits, which are carried on quite extensively, rewarding the laborers richly. The leading staple products are Indian corn, potatoes, yams, hay, sorghum, wheat, oats and broom corn. The raising of the latter has become quite an industry, many of the farmers having from fifty to one hundred acres of it the first season. Broom corn commands a good price, a clear profit of from forty to fifty dollars an acre being realized on it. Unlike sections of the country where only one or two kinds of produce

are to be depended on, the farmers of Shelby county are always sure of an abundance of farm produce, because of the variety which can be, and is grown here. You can name scarcely any fruit, grain, grass, or vegetable which is not found in abundance on the farms of the county. It is no wonder then, that the enterprising and intelligent people, who go to make up the greater part of the population, are prosperous and fore-handed, and are in a position to have every reasonable desire gratified. Comfort and even luxury are to be found upon every hand. No spot is more favored, and no county in the state has a greater number of people who are farther advanced in affluence, intelligence, refinement, and, in fact, all the blessings of life.

COUNTY CAPITAL.

The capital of the county is situated in township eleven north, range four, on sections seven and eight. A part of the city—Moulton—extends over onto section thirteen of Rose township. Shelbyville is near the centre of the county, and is on the lines of railroad of the Chicago and Eastern Illinois, and the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis.

TOPOGRAPHY.

The greater part of the surface is smooth prairie land; a part is undulating; while there is a large number of small hills or bluffs, and deep ravines. These are to be found adjacent to

HISTORIC SKETCH.

the numerous streams of the county. Particularly do we find this true along the Kaskaskia river. Along this river one may drive for many miles, over rolling hills and through beautiful, wooded glens, ever and anon fording the quiet little river, which, however, plays no unimportant part in the natural

DRAINAGE SYSTEM

of the county. This river, which is the largest stream in Shelby county, enters on the boundary line between Windsor and Okaw townships, takes an irregular course toward the southwest, and leaves the county at the southern line of section 15, of Dry Point township. It finally mingles its waters with those of the Mississippi river at the western extremity of the state. In its course it passes along the eastern side of Shelbyville, and affords the pleasures of boating, bathing and fishing to the people of the city. The Kaskaskia, with its tributaries, drains the greater portion of Shelby county. The Little Wabash river has its source in numerous small streams in Ash Grove township, and drains Ash Grove, Big Spring and Sigel, leaving the county on section eighteen of the last named township. The principal tributary of the Little Wabash is Copperas Creek, which enters it from the east, on section twenty of Big Spring township. Wolf, Brush and Richland creeks furnish the waterways of Prairie and Holland townships, Richland creek being swelled by the waters of Brush creek, and joining the Kaskaskia on section eleven of Dry Point. Mitchell creek is the principal stream of this township, aside from the Kaskaskia, and crosses a corner of Cold Spring in its southward course. Beck's and Possum creeks drain Oconee and the western part of Cold Spring. Rural is watered and drained by Mud creek and

its numerous branches. Flat Branch and Moweaqua have Flat Branch creek, which flows in a northwesterly direction, leaving the county on section six of Flat Branch township. It has a number of small tributaries. It is readily seen that the entire county is threaded with a network of small rivers and streams, so that the surface is well watered and drained. Beside these streams, in many portions of the county are found springs of clear, cold water, and numerous small lakes. The surface of our county is higher, generally, than that of adjoining counties, as may be inferred from the fact that so many streams have their source here. The climate is all that could be desired, the happy mean, between the extremes of heat and cold.

TOWNSHIPS.

Shelby county is divided into twenty-two municipal townships. Running from north to south, and beginning at the west, they are as follows: In the first tier, Oconee, which is at the southwest corner of the county; second tier, Moweaqua, Flat Branch, Rural, Tower Hill, Cold Spring and Herrick; third tier, Penn, Pickaway, Ridge, Rose and Dry Point; fourth tier, Todd's Point, Okaw, Shelbyville and Holland; fifth tier, Windsor, Richland and Prairie; sixth tier, Ash Grove, Big Spring and Sigel.

Oconee, Dry Point, Holland and Prairie each comprise one and one-half townships, or fifty-four sections of land.

POPULATION OF TOWNSHIPS.

The population of the several townships of Shelby county, as determined by the census of 1900, is as follows:

Ash Grove	1,348
Big Spring	961

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Cold Spring.....	1,133
Dry Point.....	2,520
Flat Branch.....	991
Herrick.....	887
Holland.....	1,833
Moweaqua.....	1,802
Oconeé.....	1,691
Okaw.....	1,408
Penn.....	541
Pickaway.....	890
Prairie	2,096
Richland	1,350
Ridge	1,084
Rose	1,415
Shelbyville	4,304
Rural.....	867
Sigel.....	980
Todd's Point	629
Tower Hill	1,538
Windsor.....	1,808
Total.....	32,076

SOIL.

A more definite allusion to the soil might be made than that already contained in the pre-

ceding pages. The soil of most of the northern part of the county is a dark, rich loam, and produces finer crops of corn than that of any other portions of the county. In the southwestern part of Shelby the soil of the flat prairie and timbered lands, is very thin; and on the mound slopes exceedingly rich and productive. Good crops of wheat are raised in most of the northern part of the county, and on the mound slopes of the southern part.

Excellent sand for use in plastering is procurable on Little Wabash and Kaskaskia rivers, on Sand creek, and from some of the drift exposures. The sand and gravel of the county are good material for the building of roads. Shelbyville is particularly fortunate in having an almost inexhaustible supply of splendid road material, conveniently located. A good quality of clay for brick-making may be found almost anywhere in the county. Limestone, suitable for lime, can be obtained only on Sand creek, and four or five miles north of Shelbyville.

It is readily seen that nature has wisely and generously provided for the needs and comforts of residents of Shelby county.

STATE ROADS—BRIDGES—STAGES—POLITICAL PARTIES AND LEADERS.

CHAPTER IV.

It is ours to give but a brief survey of those highways for public travel within the county, which are known as State Roads; and though we may not make mention of all of them, still we shall speak of the most important—the ones upon which there is the most travel.

Good roads are a sign of civilization. The wild animals make winding and devious pathways through the forests; the savage is content to follow a crooked trail across the prairie or through the wood; but civilized man casts up a highway, straight and level, upon which to drive his teams and haul his loads of produce to market. The more thrifty and industrious are the residents of any given community, the better will be the roads of that community. Some classes are content to travel on for decades over roads which have no bottom, into the mire of which the wheels of their vehicles sink deep; or over the old corduroy roads which still exist in some localities, and which would serve very well as the proverbial road over which the "pauper's" bones were to be rattled. Good, hard roads are always cheaper than poor ones, as many men have found out to their cost.

One of these state roads, and perhaps the one over which there is the most travel, is that leading westward from Terre Haute, Indiana, connecting that city with Shelbyville, and of which Main street, of the latter city, is a continuation. Another takes its way in a zig-zag

diagonal across Shelby county from Vandalia, forty miles to the southwest, and takes in Shelbyville on its course. Still another, is the highway between Shelbyville and Springfield, about eighty miles to the northwest. Taylorville is one of the towns along the road between the two cities above mentioned. This same road extends south and east of Shelbyville as far as Charleston. It was over these roads that the old stage coach of pioneer and ante-railroad days took its slow and lumbering way, carrying the United States mail, and occasionally a passenger or two. Once in a while quite a distinguished personage would be carried to and fro through our county. No less a man than Martin Van Buren, the eighth president of our Republic, once passed through Shelbyville by stage, and stopped over night at Tresler's tavern, at Cochran's Grove, where there was what was then known as a "stage stand." James Cochran was then postmaster at that place. We can say with equal truth that no greater man than Abraham Lincoln ever passed this way, patronizing the stage coaches and inns by the wayside. The Tallman House—now Leland—Greer's Tavern, three and one-half miles east of the city, where Bud Hilton now lives, and the tavern at Cochran's Grove were the most popular ones of all along the route, and it was the Tallman House where Lincoln and other lawyers used to board while in Shelbyville, attending court. Old Mrs. Tallman, who was hostess of that house in the olden days, and who still resides in the city, has a very pleasing recollection of the immortal



ABRAM MIDDLESWORTH.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Lincoln. During one session of court, at which "Abe" was in attendance, Mrs. Tallman prepared one day an old-fashioned "boiled dinner," the like of which we all remember well. Of this Lincoln ate with a relish, and literally gorged himself, so fond was he of that preparation. Some time later, coming to Shelbyville to attend court again, before going to the court house in the morning, Mr. Lincoln sought Mrs. Tallman in her kitchen and said: "Mrs. Tallman, can't you give us another boiled dinner, today?" which she proceeded to do, and of which the man, who was destined to become the "Savior of his country," ate just as ravenously as he did of the first dinner he ate in the Tallman House.

The roads, even the state roads, were exceedingly bad in the early days, and it sometimes became necessary to carry the mail in a rude box, hoisted upon the axle between two wheels, and even then employing from four to six horses to drag this outfit through the mud. The only post office between Shelbyville and Cochran's Grove, was kept by the father of Jasper L. Douthit, four and one-half miles east of the city, on the farm where he then lived.

Some of the other taverns which existed in the early days through this section, were located: One on Washington street where B. M. Davis' livery now stands; one on the southwest corner of the public square; the Harrison Tavern, on the corner of Main and Broadway, where Scovil's store now stands; one kept by James Culter, Sr., in Moulton, known as "Old Culter Stand;" and one at Prairie Bird, now Henton. Still another was about eight miles out on the Springfield road, which supplied a stopping place for the stages and travelers.

At some seasons of the year, as may still be done, it was possible to ford the various

streams of the county, at almost any place; but at other seasons they rose to a raging torrent, and then bridges became a necessity. The first bridge over the Kaskaskia was one erected just east of Shelbyville, and finished and accepted by the county commissioners, in 1834. From that time on other bridges were constructed, some of a poor class, and others of a much more substantial and worthy kind. Today there are a great many bridges within the county, and many of them of as good material and as substantially made as any to be found. Iron bridges, with stone abutments prevail. In this connection we must speak of the gigantic piece of engineering skill displayed in the construction of the C. & E. I. R. R. bridge across the Okaw, just at the eastern limit of the City of Shelbyville, and which is the largest bridge in the state of Illinois. Its erection was completed in the fall of 1897. It is a massive structure, 1600 feet from end to end, and 106 feet high.

POLITICAL PARTIES AND LEADERS.

The history of the political parties and leaders is better known by the old residents of the county, than we can record it, still some little mention must be made of it in these pages.

A number of the different parties have had existence within Shelby county, though some of them never attained great prominence; the most important ones being the Democratic, Republican and Whig. The old residents can look back and recall with vividness some stormy scenes of the early 60's, when hearts beat quick and blood ran riot through the veins; when good, patriotic men, ordinarily, were led away by partisan prejudice and hot-headed leaders, to perform acts which in moments of their cooler judgment they would have spurned from them.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

From the inception of the county it had been a Democratic stronghold, always giving one of the largest majorities of any county in the state. No other party had been able to have representation through the press, until the publication of "The Shelby Freeman," in 1860, and as a natural consequence, the dominant party had things all its own way, and was loth to admit any force or factor which would deteriorate from its own power. Hitherto "free speech" and a "free press" were unknown quantities in the county, as any effort to secure the publication of an article which was in the slightest degree censorious of the existing condition of affairs, was summarily "squeleched."

The organization of the Republican party, in the Lincoln issues of '58 and '60, was the signal for the passing of the Whig party, many of the members of the same uniting with the Republicans, though a few went with the Democrats. Under the circumstances which then existed it is not strange that through partisan prejudice otherwise excellent citizens were led to take sides with the enemies of the government.

E. F. Chittenden, J. W. Johnson, and others, were able supporters of the new party and its principles, and their papers, the Freeman and the Union, published first in 1863, won the support of many of the sober and fair-minded Democrats, amongst whom was Hon. S. W. Moulton. There were others, however, who were not openly friendly, but by adherence to the right, as they saw the right, were enabled to prevent their party from running off to the greatest extremes of "copperheadism" as it was then termed. Among such might be mentioned General Wm. F. Thornton, Judge Anthony Thornton, and others. Both of these gentlemen, whose names appear, though bound by ties

of birth, blood and training to a Southern view of the question at issue, ever spoke loyal and patriotic words from the beginning, and did much to prevent riot and bloodshed within our borders. In a meeting of the Knights of the Golden Circle, a semi-secret organization for the purpose of inciting resistance to the draft, Judge Thornton was vehemently denounced as a traitor because he had advised submission to the government at Washington, and condemned those who were arming and drilling in our midst.

A certain preacher (?), by name Woods, made use of these words in addressing the "Knights," and was roundly cheered when he made this reference to Judge Thornton: "Had it not been for such weak-kneed, cowardly traitors we should have had King Lincoln de-throned long ago, yea verily, and beheaded."

Jasper L. Douthit was appointed to take the enrollment of the eastern half of the county, and so bitter was the opposition to this work, that his life was in constant danger, and at one time his house was bombarded in the middle of the night. Doubtless his life would have been sacrificed in the discharge of his duty had it not been that he often went from place to place in disguise. John R. Harding, who superintended the enrolling in the county, Elliott, in Holland township, Manly and Huffer, in Prairie, Turner, in Richland, Wilkinson, Hilsabeek and Rose, in Windsor, were men who were members of the various political parties, yet aided much in prevention of violence, and in submission to the Federal government.

General Thornton was perhaps as great a political leader as our county has ever seen, and though dominating in things political, he was a man of pure mind and integrity of purpose; and it is pretty good evidence of the righteousness

HISTORIC SKETCH.

of his reign that the adherents of his party were quite willing to be led by such a man.

Another party to be reckoned with in the political circles of Shelby county, is the Prohibition party, organized in a convention called for that purpose, by Geo. L. Douthit, May 29, 1886. Believing that the time was ripe for an organized warfare against intemperance, this gentleman, with the assistance of a number of others, succeeded in this organization. Afterward they went heartily to work, and by a tremendous effort raised the vote from 80 for St John, in 1884, to 436 for their candidate for state treasurer, in 1886. In 1888, 327 votes were polled in this county for their candidate for president. The organization of this new party stirred up nearly as much unjust criticism and opposition as did the efforts against slavery twenty-five years before. J. L. Douthit was the leader of the new forces, and published Prohibition literature in profuse quantities; and again, as in the 60's, his life and property were threatened by destruction. But an unswerving courage and loyalty upon the part of this little band of workers against a great evil, has won for

them also the respect of the older parties, and for years no harsh criticism has been heard.

While in those former days the political arena in Shelby county was the scene of bitter strife and factional feuds, in these latter days there is an absence of that base fraud and chicanery so noticeable in many localities. And though the Democratic party is the one which still holds the balance of power, yet there exists a wholesome respect for one another.

We look to the future with a calm and steadfast faith in our Federal constitution and government, believing them to be the best on earth, and though sometimes the storm clouds of the smoke of battle may roll above us, and the thunderous booming of the cannon may be heard; and though perchance we may be stirred from center to circumference by civil or international unpleasantness, yet the ship of state will ride securely over the troubled seas, and glide safely into the harbor; political tricksters and demagogues will be a relic of the past, purity in politics will everywhere prevail, and none but good men and pure, will secure nomination for any political office.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE PIONEERS—THEIR HARDSHIPS, HOMES, ETC.

CHAPTER V.

While the old century is a-dying, let us withdraw our gaze for a little, and take a retrospective view of the happy past, when the century was young—a past which can never come again, and the like of which can never again be seen in this part of our noble land.

Our minds have been upon the intrepid, daring, modern explorer, who is carrying his life in his hand as he persistently and unflinchingly pursues his undaunted way toward the Pole; let us think, for a moment, of the hardy pioneer who, gathering up his few belongings, and with his little family in carts or upon the backs of horses, leaving the friends and scenes of his youth behind him, pushes out into a country unknown to him, and the journey toward which is fraught with hardships and dangers the extent of which he does not know. This perhaps requires as much faith and courage upon his part, and is perchance as great an undertaking in the eyes of those he leaves behind, as the heroic efforts of the explorer in Arctic regions.

Our thoughts are with the modern architect and builder, who are planning and erecting superstructures of rare symmetrical grace and beauty, of gigantic proportions and wondrous strength; let us turn our minds to the humble pioneer, who, with no other mechanical implements than his faithful ax and cross-cut saw, and without any knowledge whatever of pillar,

cornice or archivolt, goes into the forest, and saws and hews for himself a log palace which he may call home, and of which he is King, and his wife is Queen.

We are thinking of the artist, and gazing with enraptured eyes upon the magnificent landscape which he has placed upon the canvas; then let us think of the pioneer farmer, who comes into a wilderness of forest and wild prairie land, and after a little, under the magic touch of his hand, there spring up the fields of waving grain and the gardens of fruit and vegetables, which are not alone pleasing to the eye, but are pleasing to the taste as well.

We may be contemplating with wondering amazement the perfecting of the electrical appliances, by which it is possible to flash a message around the globe in a few seconds of time; let us turn our thoughts to the pioneer, who necessarily waited weary weeks and even months for an answer to his written message, carried on foot and by horseback to his early home, and for the sending of which he might pay as much as a half dollar, or even more.

We gaze upon the marvelous machinery which lightens the toil of the farmer, and expedites his agricultural labors, and then think of the plow with wooden mold-board, the hoe, sickle and rake of the pioneer, with which he did most of his farm work.

Contemplating with a good deal of satisfaction the many charitable organizations and institutions, through which flows help to our more unfortunate fellows, let us turn our eyes



LOOKING NORTHWEST FROM DOME OF COURT HOUSE, SHELBYVILLE.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

backward and behold the true charity of the settlers, who, with more sincerity than tact, perhaps, relieved the distress of the unfortunate, and shared their little with the neighbor who had less.

The man who came to this country in those early days, and now, with dimming eye and whitened hair, sits by the fireside and talks in a happy, garrulous fashion of his youth and young manhood, can not be made to believe that these latter days are better than the former; that there is an increase in happiness, an improvement in social life, a higher standard of morals, and an upward tendency in all that relates to mankind. And we would not undeceive him if we could. Blessed pioneer—the founder of our homes, and the forerunner of our successes!

The majority of the pioneers of Shelby county came from the states of Kentucky and Tennessee, while many came from Ohio. Many of those from the first two states named were descendants of the intrepid Indian fighter and hunter, David Crockett, and settled in the southern and eastern parts of the county, while those from Ohio, generally of a little wealthier class, settled in the northern part of Shelby. The latter were distinctively the better agriculturists.

In speaking of the Ohioans as belonging to a "wealthier class" than the others, we must not be understood to mean "wealthy" in the sense in which it is now generally understood; for in those days all men were poor, having but few of the comforts, and none of the luxuries of life. With this, however, it is important to remember that their poverty carried with it no crushing sense of degradation, as does that of the very poor of our own day. They lived in log cabins, it is true, but they were their own,

and had been reared by their own hands, toil-hardened and labor-stained as they were. The houses, too, were built in the prevailing style of architecture, and did not suffer by comparison with those of the neighbors, which were neither better nor worse. As has been indicated, these houses were of logs, made in the simplest style, all of them having wide, gaping fire-places, and many of them having no other escape for the smoke than that afforded by a hole in the roof. It was an unmistakable sign of the "aristocracy" to find a frame house, rude though it may be, with a brick chimney. This, however, was a rarity indeed. The prevailing custom was to have one large room which was used for reception room, drawing room, library, parlor and bed room, and a smaller room, where the cooking and eating were done. Another plan, and there were many houses built after this fashion, was to have two large rooms with log walls, and a broad hallway between them. These rooms were called the "big-house," and "kitchen," respectively. Occasionally there would be a loft over these rooms, which would sometimes be dignified by the name of "up-stairs."

Another fact worthy of note was that very many of the pioneers located their cabins "in the brush" along the river, and a man who built upon the open prairie was openly denounced as a "fool" in no unmistakable terms. This antipathy toward the "open" was due, in all probability, to the settlers having come from the protected regions of mountains and woods.

The furnishings of these humble dwellings comported admirably with the house itself, and hence, if not elegant, were in perfect taste. It was all of the simplest pattern, and was shaped entirely with no other tools than the ax and auger. The tables were rude affairs, made from

HISTORIC SKETCH.

a puncheon, a log split in two, and the rough side hewn off with ax or adz. To this were affixed four legs, and the table was complete. The chairs were principally three-legged "stools." Each man was his own carpenter, and some of them exhibited considerable skill in the construction of agricultural implements, utensils, and furniture for the kitchen and house. Wooden vessels, either dug out or coppered were in common use for bowls, out of which each member of the family ate mush and milk for supper. Gourds were used for drinking cups.

The diet and cookery were of the simplest. Wild game abounded. The settlers brought with them enough provision to last them until they could plant and raise a crop on their new land. Indian corn was raised, which was reduced to meal by being beaten in a mortar. This meal was made into a coarse, but wholesome bread, though many times the teeth were "set on edge" by the grit which it contained. Johnny-cake and pones were served up at dinner, while mush-and-milk was the "old standby" for supper. While they had a plenty of game and vegetables all the week, the corn bread was mostly reserved for Sunday, and coffee was served only on Sunday morning, or to visitors. Then each member of the family, even the child of but a few years, was indulged to the extent of a "gourd of coffee." Maple sugar was much used and honey was but five cents a pound. This was also the price of butter, and eggs were but three cents a dozen. Corn was but six and one-fourth cents per bushel. The "truck patch" furnished roasting ears, pumpkins, squashes, beans and potatoes, and these were in common use. The streams abounded in fish, which furnished a healthful and abundant article of diet. Chickens, geese, turkeys and ducks were very numerous. Wild

grapes and plums were to be found along the streams, and nature vied with man in producing for the latter an abundance of the most substantial and stable provision for his temporal needs. Truly, there are today worse places than "Old Shelby" was in the pioneer days.

Each house contained a card-loom and spinning wheel, which were considered by the women as necessary for them, as the rifle for the man. The sheep were sheared, the wool carded and spun, the manufactured cloth dyed and made into clothing, all within the family. Everyone wore "homespun," most of which was dyed with walnut bark, while Indigo was reserved for "something very fine." In cool weather, gowns made of "linsey-woolsey" were worn by the women. The men and boys wore "jeans," sometimes blue, and sometimes "butternut" in color. Many times when the men gathered to a log-rolling or barn-raising, the women would also assemble, bringing their spinning wheels with them, with which they would busy themselves, the hum of the spinning being accompanied by the pleasant murmur of the voices of the fair manipulators.

The dressed skin of the deer were much used for pantaloons by the men and boys. Meal sacks were also made of buckskin. Caps were made of the skins of the wolf, fox, wild cat and musk-rat, tanned with the fur on. Both sexes wore moccasins, which in dry weather, were an excellent substitute for shoes. There were no shoemakers, and each family made its own shoes.

The settlers were separated from their neighbors, often by miles, and as there were no "meetings" to call them together, the alacrity with which they accepted an invitation to a "bee" of any kind, can easily be imagined. The utmost good will and brotherly love existed

HISTORIC SKETCH.

among these pioneers. It is related that at one time a man by the name of Price, who lived in what is now Ash Grove township, was taken sick and was unable to harvest ten acres of wheat which needed cutting. The weather was pleasant and it was the "full of the moon." Imagine the pleasurable surprise when, upon going to the door one morning, Mrs. Price discovered that the kind-hearted neighbors had come under cover of the night and had cut and shocked the whole field of wheat. This is but one of many such kindly acts which go to illustrate the spirit which existed in the early days, and which is, alas! too little known today.

At all log-rollings, house-raisings and corn-shuckings it was customary to provide liquor and a dance. Excessive drinking was not engaged in, however, and the company presented a gay appearance throughout the evening and much of the night, after the labors of the day were ended, and the supper had been disposed of. Great sport was had at the huskings. Then, the corn was not husked from the stalk as it is today, but was hauled in the husk to the side of the cribs, where, when divested of its husk, it would be thrown directly into the crib. This done, and the whole neighborhood assembled for the sportive task, "sides" were chosen, and the work began. As the pile had been evenly divided, between the two opposing sides, the work of husking resolved itself into a veritable contest between the two factions, each party endeavoring to complete the husking of its allotment first. One of the rules which prevailed, was, that whenever a male husked a red ear he was entitled to a kiss from the girls. This was sometimes abused, however, as it has been confided to us by one of the "old boys" that for days before the husking they would be on the alert for red ears, which they would carry with

them, and then at frequent intervals during the evening, produce them, claiming to have just found them in the heap before them. Thus many a laddie has kissed his lassie under the abused privilege of the red-ear custom.

The amusements of that day were more athletic and rude than those of today. Among the settlers in a new country, from the very nature of the case, a higher value is set upon physical than mental endowments. Skill in woodcraft, superiority in muscular development, accuracy in shooting with a rifle, activity and swiftness of foot, were qualifications which brought their possessors fame. Foot racing was often practiced, and frequent contests were entered into with the Indians. Every man had a rifle, and always kept it in good order, ready for instant use. His flints, bullet-moulds, screw-driver, awl, butcher-knife and tomahawk were fastened to the shot-pouch strap, or to the belt around his waist. At all gatherings wrestling and jumping were engaged in. Cards, dice, and other gambling devices were unknown. If disputes arose, they were settled by a fair, hand to hand fight, and no other weapons than the fists were used.

Hospitality was one of the dominant virtues of the pioneers, a stranger never being turned from the door, and no charge ever being made for the entertainment provided, though sometimes the guest freely offered something. One of the older men tells us that he has seen as many as fifty people lodging upon the floor of his father's house, while in attendance upon a meeting of a Baptist association.

While we would not step back into the pioneer days, if we could, we may still sigh for some of the noble traits and characteristics, unknown now, which disappeared with the passing of the Old Pioneer.

WINNOWED GLEANINGS FROM OFFICIAL RECORDS.

CHAPTER VI.

To the majority of human beings it is ever a source of pleasure and a matter of interest, to get a glimpse of the past. There are several ways in which this may be accomplished. One of the most pleasurable is that of tradition. Who among us, is not delighted when permitted to sit in the circle of those whose locks have been silvered by the snows of many winters; whose eyes have grown dim and their steps more slow and feeble, and listen with eagerness as their minds, still bright and strong, and filled with thoughts of the past, wander back over the years, and they recount the incidents and happenings of early days? How the eye brightens, and the cheek takes on lustre, and the voice grows strong and animated, as the olden memories take possession of the mind; and how pleased they are when one will attentively listen to the reminiscences which are, to them, the renewal of their youth! It is from such that we gather much of the truest history—that which cannot be gathered from any other source. Blessings on the wrinkled brow and whitened head! May they always be revered and sacred to us.

Another source of information relative to matters past, is the official record; and from this we purpose gleaning this chapter of our History. This, too, gives us an insight into the manners and customs which prevailed in the earlier day, and owing to the kindly courtesy of the officials, we are permitted to produce for our

patrons and friends many interesting excerpts from the official records of Shelby county. Some of these which we have selected will appeal to the humorous, and still will give us a good idea of the simple, homely manners which were of sufficient "polish" to serve all purposes of the pioneers. As some of the extracts will be copied verbatim, it may be seen that the old spelling book was not a very popular volume; that capitalization and punctuation were practically unknown arts; still a thorough knowledge of these things does not seem to have been necessary in order to add to the legality of any document or transaction in law. We refrain from further comment, and copy

THE FIRST MARRIAGE LICENSE NOW ON RECORD.

"State of Illinois, Shelby County. The people of the State of Illinois.

"To all to whom these presents may come. Greeting: Know ye, that license and permission are granted unto any judge of the supreme court, or any inferior court in the State of Illinois, any justice of the peace, or licensed minister of the gospel in Shelby county, to join together in the holy bonds of matrimony, as man and wife, W. I. Provalt, and Miss Lidy Wilborn, now both of Shelby county, according to law and custom of this state, and for so doing this shall be their sufficient warrant.

"Witness, Joseph Oliver, clerk of the County Commissioners' court of Shelby county, and

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his private seal, no official seal provided yet, at Shelbyville, this third day of October, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, and of American Independence, the 52d.

"JOSEPH OLIVER, Clerk,
"County Com. Court."

MARRIAGE LICENSE NO. 100.

We also transcribe the tenth marriage license which was issued by the clerk of the court, showing a slight change in the construction from that of the one above:

"State of Illinois, Shelby County. The people
of the State of Illinois.

"To all to whom these presents may come, Greeting: Know ye, that license and permission is hereby granted to any licensed minister of the gospel, judge or justice of the peace, in the County of Shelby, and State of Illinois, to solemnize the rites of matrimony between John W. Sadler and Miss Bashaba Lindly, now both of the county and state aforesaid.

"Witness, Joseph Oliver, clerk of the County Commissioners' court of said county of Shelby, and state aforesaid, this 17th day of November, 1830. "JOS. OLIVER, Clerk.

"Issued on oath of Jno. Whitley, Sr."

We append the following certificate, which is endorsed upon the back of the above license:

"I do certify that on the eighteenth day of November I joined together in matrimony John Sadler and Bashaba Lindly, according to law this 30 day of November 1830.

"JOSEPH BAKER, J. p."

It seems that in those early days no young man and woman could get a marriage license, without first having secured the consent of the parents of both the contracting parties. Nearly all of these licenses are accompanied by the

written consent of parents. We copy a few which are varied in construction of both words and sentences:

PARENTAL CONSENT.

"Mr. Robberds pleas giv james Homes licens to marry Melissia Reed

"JAMES B REED"

"This is to certify that I have given my consent to the Marriage of my Son william graham, and Caly (Sally) Sawyers as witness my hand this 7th of July, 1830.

"JONATHAN GRAHAM,"

"AMOS VENTREES,

"JAMES GRAHAM L. D."

Accompanying the above is the following from the father of the happy young damsel beforementioned:

"This is to certify that I have given my Consent To the marriage of my Daughter Cala (Sally) Sawyer and Williani graham, sun of Jonathan graham, as witness my hand this 7 Day July, 1830. "CHARLES SAWYER."

"Test.

"DANIEL LINDEN.

"JOHN SAWYER."

The "licens," to the issuance of which the above "conseent" was given, was duly secured and it is to be hoped that the amorous twain enjoyed for many years the consequent conjugal felicity.

"To the Clerk of the County Commishern Court of Shielby County, this is to give you to no that you are at Liberty to give Lisence to Henery South and Sarah Hall to be joined as man and wife. "WM. HALL, Sen."

On the back of the license issued in response to the request of the above mentioned parties, appears this endorsement of the justice of the peace who performed the ceremony:

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"I do hereby Certify that I Solomonised the
within on thursday, the 30 of oct. 1828.

"LEVI CASEY."

"To Mr. Joseph Oliver, Clarke of the
County Comisinors cort.

"this is to certify that I give you leave and
am willing that you shold give or grant lissons
to marry this frau under my hand this 10 of
may 1830. "JOHN WAGONNER.

"test

"JOHN WHITLEY Sen."

It is a matter of conjecture as to whether
one condition upon which the consent was
granted was that the "frau" should be married
under the outstretched hand of the parent; or
that as he wrote he had his hand upon her head
in parental blessing; or did he belong to that
very numerous class of men to whom it is a
matter of pride to have the women of the house-
hold "under their thumb?" It is to be hoped it
was not the latter.

Following, we have a copy of the license
and certificate of marriage of a couple of Shelby's
popular young people in the "20's:"

"Know ye, that license and permission is
hereby granted to any licensed minister of the
gospel, judge, or justice of the peace, in the
county of Shelby and state of Illinois, to join in
marriage Mr. Jeremiah Dunn and Miss Nancy
Tull, now both of the county of Shelby and state
aforesaid.

"Witness, 13th of December, 1829.

"JOSEPH OLIVER, Clerk.

Endorsement:

"William Siler enters himself as security for
the Maid in the above license.

"WILLIAM SILER.

"Issued on oath."

on the 16th Day of December, 1829. I
solemnized the bonds of matrimony between

Jeremiah Dunn and Nancy Tull given under my
hand and seal this first th Day of march 1830.

"LEVI JORDAN J p"

In strong contrast to the certificates of mar-
riage of the present day, which are truly beau-
tiful productions of art, are the certificates to
be found in the official records of by-gone dec-
ades, a few of which we append. Still, the
blushing bride of the early part of the century
prized just as highly and treasured just as jeal-
ously the little scrap of parchment upon which
was scrawled in uncouth words the record of
her marriage to the man she loved, as now the
bride of the present delights in the tastefully
executed record of her own marriage.

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES.

Certificate of the marriage of Mr. E.
Woollen and Miss T. Hall:

"I do hereby certify the within was dueley
executed on the 27 day of July 1831 by me S
Alphin J p."

If the above is to be taken literally we
wonder what was the crime of which this couple
was guilty, that should lead to their "execution"
upon their wedding day?

"State of Illinois, Shelby County January
the 17 A. d. one thousand eight hundred and
thirty too I solinized the wrights of Matrimony
Between Robot (Robert) Tempelton and phebe
horn.

"Giving under my hand and Seal this the
17 of Jan 1832. "G. BAKER, J. P."

"State of Illinois, Shelby county,

"this is to certify that Marriage was cilli-
brated betwixt Thomas duty and Sally Skean on
the seventh of November 1827 by me

"SHELTON ALPHIN Jp."

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Though the peculiarly worded lines, misspelled words and utter ignorance of punctuation, all crude in themselves, make the above extracts from the records seem ludicrous to the reader, still underneath it all runs the same old story of love and embarrassment, of doubts and fears and coquetry, of the wooing of the one who is to the woer his heart's idol, which finds its counterpart in every modern courtship. These also prove that in those years the youths and maidens depended more largely upon the heart, rather than upon the intellect, for their mutual attraction and the recompense of their love.

Some one has said: "I would rather live in a hut that I had built with my own hands toil-hardened and labor-stained; and have a grassy path leading down to a spring, so that I could go down there and hear the water gurgle from the lips of earth, like a poem whispered to the white pebbles; and have some lattice work at the window so the sunlight could fall in, checkered, on the babe in the cradle; and some hollyhocks and trees, with the birds singing and swinging in their branches—I would rather have these, and be with the woman I love than to reign in a palace with a queen, whose heart I did not possess."

We turn aside from the contemplation of that in which there is much sentiment, and attend to that which is of purely commercial nature. In the early days of the county, and, indeed, for many years after its organization it was necessary for any one engaging in business pursuits to first pay license for the privilege of the same. We copy two receipts for moneys received for the privilege of retailing merchandise, and of running a show, respectively, which show us the amount of tax levied for such privileges:

RECEIPTS FOR LICENSE MONEY.

"Received of George H. Beeler, nine dollars, being the amount of tax for retailing foreign merchandise for one year, in Shelbyville, Illinois.

"JOHN HAMILTON,
Treasurer."

"Received of John W. Maxwell, five dollars, for which the said Maxwell is to be permitted to exhibit a show, for a term not exceeding one week. "JOHN HAMILTON,

Treasurer."

RECEIPT FOR FINE.

Which shows that even those who impose fines upon others, are not exempt, themselves, when they have broken the law:

"Received of B. R. Hunter, \$3.00 for a fine collected off of Shelton Allphin, Esq., this the 6th of September, 1831.

"JOHN HAMILTON,
Treasurer."

In this connection it may be interesting to note that from April 26, 1827, to March 4, 1833, a period of six years, only forty-two fines were levied and collected. These amounted in sum total to \$170, and were imposed in cases before nine separate justices of the peace.

PETITION FOR CHANGE OF FOURTH ELECTION DISTRICT.

"To the Honorable the County Commissioners' Court of Shelby county, we, the undersigned citizens of the Fourth Election District, do believe that the place of holding elections at Arthur Scott's should be remooved to John Pervises it being the most Sentral Pint in this Election District, for which in duty bound we shall ever Prey.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

"May 28, 1836."

Attached to this are fifty-five names of citizens of Shelby county. In response to this petition the place of holding elections was "remooved" as desired.

Occasionally we see a criminally indolent being who, when the cold weather approaches, would as soon be incarcerated in the county bastile, as not, because he knows his board and lodging is assured for as long a time as he remains a public charge. But this was not true of the early days of Shelby county. Then, it was the rule that the one who was imprisoned should provide the wherewithal to purchase his own food; failing to do this, he would go hungry unless he made affidavit and gave sufficient proof of his inability to provide such means. Below, we give a copy of such affidavit.

OATH OF WILLIAM WILSON.

"State of Illinois, County of Shelby.

"Be it remembered, that on this day personally appeared William Wilson, in the jail of said county, before me, J. W. Johnson, an acting justice of the peace within and for the county and state aforesaid, and made oath that he, the said Wilson, was not able to pay the necessary 'dyet' and other things for his sustenance while in jail.

"Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 23d of September, 1830.

"J. W. JOHNSON, J. P."

his

"WILLIAM (x) WILSON."

mark

PETITION OF BARNET BONE.

"To the Honorable, the County Commissioner's Court of Shelby county:

"Whereas, Prescilla Law, a poor woman, and two small children, came to my house some two or three months since, without any means wherewith to subsist; your petitioner took them in, and from that time has supported them; the woman and one child the most of the time sick.

"Therefore your petitioner wishes you to make him some compensation for his trouble. And, furthermore, to make some further provision for the said poor persons.

"Yours respectfully,

"October 1st, 1832. "BARRY BONE."

We refrain from comment on the following petitions; they speak for themselves:

PETITION FOR ELECTION PRECINCT.

"We the sitchens of Shelby county on the little wor Bash potishion the county commishner court Held at Shelbiville to lay us of a pree-sinkt to rune from the head of brush creek timber to John poes on the fore mild creek then Due East to the county line on the East fork of the little wore Bash and wish the place of holding Electtions to be at Amacy Bails also we wish one constibile and jesstus of the peace and ing Electtions to be at Amacy Bails also we conveinent.

"pertisherners name

"AMASSLY BAILS 1

"A. C. HUNTER 2

"LEVI BAILS 3

"JERAMIAH DANIEL 3

"NATHAN DANIEL 4

"JOSEPH STIPHENS 5"

PETITION FOR REVIEW OF ROAD.

"to the honorable Court of Shelby county:

"We the undersigned do pray for a revue

HISTORIC SKETCH.

of a rode leading from shelbivill to Danvill in vermillion County runing with the tarehote road as fair as Wm. J. Bennet's esq thince by John Whitleys hors mill to the County loin as there is no road as yet through this section of our County we the undersignors do pray your honorable boddy to grant us said road as it will be useful to the inhabitanee of this county and also to the travillers and by so doing you will confer a grate favour on your umble petitioners

August the 1th, 1831

"Levi Jordan	"Peter Allgood
"Joseph Reed	"James Renford
"James Albet	"James Walles
"L. H. Dunn	"George Wageonor
"John Rose	"Elias Car
"James Baker	"Smauel Miles
"Daniel Davis	"William Walker
"John A. Baker	"Peter Kirk
"William Rose	"Joshua Randle
"Josiah B. Tull	"Daniel Smith
"James McDaniel	"Hiram little
"B. W. Siler	"Benjamin Moberly
Wm. Whitley	"John Weger
"Evan Baker	"John Whitley Sr
"William McDaniel	"Right Litele
"John Wagonner	"John Whitley Jr
"Andrew Weeks	"thomas Randal
"Alfred fortner	"Jeremiah Dannel
"Alfred Walles	"Fredderick Ponce
"Jordan Ball	"Elisha Waggoner
"Levy Gally	"Prior Brally
"Gilbert Waggoner	"Sam Bouger
"Jacob walles	"Jesse Crouder
"Baszel weeks	"J. W. Edwards
"John abbit	"Milton Cox
James Ledbetter, Jr	"Robert Weger
"Mills Whitley	"thomas Weger
"Isham Hardy	"Jacob Bouger
"Foley waggoner	"William Pierce

"Harman Smith	"Aron price
"J. W. Lovins	"William Hannon
"Talman Smith,	"Gideon Edwards
"Sharp Whitley	"James W. Herod
"Henry Miller	"William Welch
"Thomas Bouger	"Clinton Little
"Robert dunken	"John Brally Esq.
"James Ledbetter	"Green Wornalk
"Hugh Walden	"Benjamin Wornalk
	"James Crommover."

CERTIFICATE AND OATH RELATIVE TO ENTERING LAND.

"The south-west quarter of the north-west quarter of section 27, township eleven north, range three east, of the third principal meridian.
"State of Illinois, Shelby County, ss.

"I do solemnly swear that the land above described is intended to be entered for my own personal use and benefit, and not in trust for another; and the same is intended for cultivation; and that I have not entered, under the Act of the 4th of March 1832, nor under the Act of the 2d of June, 1833, at this nor any other land office in the United States, any land in quarter quarter sections, in my own name or in the name of any other person.

her
"ELIZABETH (x) HARMON.
mark

"Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 22d of June, 1839.

"EDWARD EVY, J. P. S. C."

PROMISSORY NOTE.

"One day after date I promise to pay Morgan Bryant or order the sum of twenty-three Dollars and eighteen and three-fourth ets for

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value received of him, baring ten per cent from date until paid this April the 9th, 1860.

"JAMES STOUT."

ORDER AND RECEIPT.

"Mr. John giles J. P. you will please to pay C. Musser the balance due me on that judgment of mine against Bricker, and this shall bee your receipt." "PAUL WARNER."

AFFIDAVIT.

"State of Illinois, Shelby County, December 16, 1870.

"I, J. R. Sawyer, this day has Made oaths before R. L. Brumfield, that he does verrybly beleaves that I, R. Beason Did on the night of the 15 of Dec 1870 take and Carry away on Pocket Book Containing Eleven Dollars and some other Papers Belonging to John R. Sawyer.

"JOHN R. SAWYER.

"Subscribed and sworn to before me this day, December the 16th, 1870.

"K. T. BRUMFIELD, J. P."

ESTRAY NOTICE.

"Taken up by E. M. Riggs in Holland township Shelby Co. Illinois Dec the 9 1869 one roan yearling stear read roan white face crop of the left ear and under half crop in the right ear, One yearling heifer very small of her age red on her back the rest of her is more a roan than any other color. Crop of each ear under slope in each ear and the bush of the tail off.

"E. M. RIGGS."

The following extract from a judgment received in 1830 is unique in itself, and furnishes the reader some idea of the value of certain articles in that early period. It will be interest-

ing to compare the valuations with those of the same articles at the present.

EXTRACT FROM JUDGMENT

received before the Court of Probate, Nov. 30, 1830, for the recovering of certain property belonging to the estate of William Chandler, deceased:

"The following property which, by the judgment of the said court, it appears to belong to the said estate, to-wit:

"One Rifle Gun, molder and wifers, one Feather bead; one foot adds; 4 Puter plates; Bottom of one Puter dish; one spoon; one water pail; 3 tin cups; one Bead quilt; one Counterpin; two knives and two folks; one Hymn Book; one Bible; one Arithmetic; one sugar trunk and one Sugar box.

"JOSEPH OLIVER, Judge of Probate."

EXTRACT FROM APPRAISEMENT BILL OF WILLIAM CHANDLER.

"One bell and collar	\$1.12	1-2
One slate . . . . .	.25	
One Small Bottle. . . . .	.12	1-2
One vile . . . . .	.06	1-4
One quart bottle. . . . .	.25	
One Rasor. . . . .	.25	
One vile of antemomial wine. . . . .	.12	1-2
One whetestone . . . . .	.12	1-2
one pare of hames . . . . .	.12	1-2
one tea plate . . . . .	.04	
two Drest deer skins. . . . .	.62	1-2
one raccoon skin. . . . .	.06	1-4
one dogskein. . . . .	.25	
one parsel of shoemaker's tax12	1-2
five fish hooks.18	3-4
One bunch of black paper06	1-4

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One parcel of all spice06	1-4
Six puter spoons.37	1-2
three tea spoons12	1-2
one coffee pote12	1-2
twelve all Blads. . . . .	.18	3-4
two Brest chaines . . . . .	.50	
one how.	1.00	
one swingle tree . . . . .	.50	
one Blowing horn . . . . .	.25	
one peace of led. . . . .	.31	1-4
one Ax.	1.75	
one bunch of tobacco.	1.00	
one Cole . . . . .	.03	
one tronke.	1.50	
five neting needles . . . . .	.04	
one pare of pote hooks. . . . .	.25	
one tin trumpet. . . . .	.03	
one scillete and bead	1.00	
one peas of a log chain . . . . .	.62	1-2

We add a few items from the "inventory bill" of the estate of Asa Ledbetter, which show the prevailing valuation of live stock, in 1831:

2 cows and calves, \$8 each	\$16.00
1 bull	7.00
2 heifers, \$3 each	6.00
8 head of sheep, \$1.50 each	12.00

REPORT CONCERNING POOR HOUSE.

We copy in full the report of County Physician Harnett, concerning the conditions, needs, etc., of the Poor House, in 1874. It contains some very good things, which may be of as great interest to Shelby county people as they were thirty years ago:

"To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of Shelby County, Illinois:

"Gentlemen: As this will be your last meeting of the board during this present year I will submit the following report, which I hope will not be without some interest:

"Whole number of paupers since last re-

port, seventeen (17); number at present on the farm, sixteen (16), five (5) males, and eleven (11) females, of whom two (2) of the males and four (4) of the females are idiots. One male and one female are blind; one insane. As is usual at alms houses, very few of these paupers can perform any manual labor.

"At the last time our county sent some insane persons to the southern asylum, the institution would receive three (3). Whether the institution was full, or that was the largest number our county was entitled to, I am not aware. If this unfortunate creature could be sent there now, or very soon, I would urge the board in regard to it, as our poor house, (and, indeed, almost any other) is ill prepared to keep an insane person: and surely these unfortunate creatures are entitled to our sympathies and the best home they can get, while they have to sojourn beneath the dark cloud.

"There is one boy there, a bright lad, of Charles Reynolds, that should not be there; the surroundings of any poor house not being the most favorable for such a boy. He should be provided with a home elsewhere.

"The management of the farm, under its present superintendent, is certainly all that could be expected; and as the care and welfare of the paupers depend more particularly on the kindness and efficiency of the woman that is at the head of the domestic department, I can truly congratulate the board and county in having such an one in the present Superintendent's Lady.

"Every humane citizen will rejoice when the anticipated new building will be erected; when all persons who are actually in need of assistance can be cared for. I think the farm can be made self-sustaining, if the board will be careful to adopt the true method; which I think con-

HISTORIC SKETCH.

sists in employing the best man and wife that can be had for the price, and not as some counties do—employ a man and woman simply because they are cheap, when, in fact in point of efficiency they are not more than one degree above the paupers themselves. Sometimes children of good, ordinary intellect find their way to the alms house, which is their saddest feature. What can be more dreary than the future prospects of a pauper child? The superintendent should be instructed to find homes for all such as soon as possible, in the hope of lifting them out of their forlorn condition.

"The improvement of our poor house system, I think, would be greatly facilitated, were this abode of misery more often visited by the better class of citizens in the county. It would give encouragement, and be an incentive to the superintendent to do his utmost to make the place as nearly as possible what it should be.

"Great care ought to be taken in the admission of inmates, not to exclude any who are actually in need of assistance, nor, on the other hand, to allow lazy and vicious persons to become pensioners upon public bounty. Thoroughness in the discipline and employment at hard labor, in proportion to their strength, will prevent serious imposition, because able-bodied beggars will not submit to it. Those who do, and whose fortunes are irremediable, are entitled to sympathy, and should not be permitted to suffer because they are poor and unfortunate. They should be made comfortable, and the small expense necessary to accomplish this, ought not to be grudgingly bestowed.

"Respectfully submitted,

"J. M. HARNETT, M. D.,

"County Physician."

In connection with the above we transcribe from the records a paragraph from the

report submitted, at the July, 1892, meeting of the board of supervisors, by Mr. Bigler, of the committee on Poor claims:

"Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen of the Board of Supervisors:

"Your committee on Poor claims would beg leave to report that we have examined all bills presented to us, and are very much astounded over the enormity of the sums of money claimed. In view of the fact that the La Grippe is no longer prevalent, yet by a perusal of the records of this county it would seem as if a certain number of doctors had the "Grip" on the county at all times. In the meantime, and until the law is changed or other means may be devised for the relief of the tax-payer and suffering humanity, we recommend the payment of the following claims."

THE FIRST VENIRE OF GRAND JURORS

At a session of the county commissioners' court, held at the house of Barnet Bone, in June 1827, the following named persons were selected to serve as the first grand jurors of Shelby county:

"James Renshaw, Jacob Elliott, Isaac Banghoe, Joseph Robertson, Thomas Lamb, John Richardson, Mills Whitley, Thomas Pugh, David Beck, Charles Wakefield, Jonathan Howard, Thomas Robertson, John Lee, Senr., David Hinton, William Hall, Senr., William Miller, Shelton Allphin, Robert Kerlyle, Lewis Ledbetter, John Weger, Francis Jordan, James Jordan, and Levi Jordan."

At the same session of the commissioners' court, the following named persons were drawn as the

HISTORIC SKETCH.

FIRST PETIT JURORS.

"Jonathan C. Cawley, William Scribner, Rollo Calvert, L. S. Mosley, John Harris, Reuben Milton, Daniel Hoffman, Abraham Te-tricks, Robert Duncan, Daniel Prie, Nathaniel Hambleton, Henry Smith, Lloyd Lee, John Walker, Charles Miller, Senr., William Bone Sharp Whitley, William Little, Senr., Samuel Little, Barnet Bone, Robert David, William Thomas, and Rufus Immond."

At a special term of the court, held at the usual place of meeting, on June 16, 1827, the commissioners, Hon. Levi Casey and William Weger, established the following

ELECTION DISTRICTS.

"Ordered, that Shelby county be laid off in two election districts, to-wit: First election district to commence on the southern boundary of said county, running north as far as Township thirteen north, shall compose the first election district, to be called Shelbyville district; and that William Hall, Senr., Levi Fleming, and Thomas Pugh, be appointed judges of the election, and that the elections be held at the home of Barnet Bone.

"Second election district beginning at the northern boundary of Township number thirteen north, and running north as far as the county of Shelby extends; and that Philip D. Williams, James Ward and Elisha Freeman be appointed judges of the election therein, and that the elections be held at the house of Leonard Stephens, in said district."

By order of the commissioners' court, in 1827, an

ESTRAY PEN

was established. It was built on the west half of lot number eight, in block number two, and was eighty feet long, by seventy-six feet wide, constructed of oak rails and mulberry posts. John Abbot built the same, receiving nineteen dollars as remuneration for his labor. In the following year the pen was removed to lot five, in block three, and reduced in size to forty feet long, by thirty-eight feet wide. Thomas Lee received the unused posts and rails as compensation for the labor of removing it.

FIRST LICENSE GRANTED FOR KEEPING OF A GROCERY.

"County commissioners' court, Dec. 3, 1827.

"On application of Elias Miller, of Shelby county, to keep a grocery, commonly called a tippling shop, in said county, near Shelbyville, at the dwelling-house of said Miller, it is granted him; on the said Elias Miller entering into bond in the penal sum of two hundred dollars, with John Thomason his security, and the said Miller paying into the county treasury the sum of five dollars.

"Therefore ordered, that the following tavern rates be established in the county of Shelby, viz:

For keeping horse twenty-four hours ..	37 1-2c
For keeping horse one night	25
For dinner.....	25
For breakfast or supper	25
For lodging one night	06 1-4
For half pint of brandy	25
For half pint of rum, gin or cordial.. . .	25
For half pint of whisky	12 1-2
For horse feed.....	12 1-2"

As will be seen by the above price list, a

HISTORIC SKETCH.

"grocery man," or more properly, a "tavern keeper" was not permitted to arrange his own prices, but had to conform to those prescribed by the county commissioners' court, and was, in that way, prevented from extorting from his patrons an exorbitant price. We are led to wonder if some such rule would not be a good thing to have in vogue at the present time?

FERRY BOAT.

The first ferry boat across the Kaskaskia river, within the bounds of Shelby county, was established in December, 1827, by the county court. It was a large, flat-bottomed affair, with capacity for wagon and several horses, or a number of head of cattle. It was operated on the river just east of Shelbyville, by Elias Miller, to whom license was granted by the court, and who was required to pay into the county treasury the sum of two dollars for the first year, and to execute a bond in the penal sum of two hundred dollars. The commissioners' court also established the following rates, viz:

For wagon and four horses.....	50	c
For two horse wagon	37	1-2
For cart and oxen	37	1-2
For man and horse.....	12	1-2
For footman.....	06	1-4
For wagon, or cart, and one horse.....	25	
Single horse.....	06	1-4
For hogs and cattle, per head	03	

THE FIRST DEED

executed after the organization of Shelby county, was that of Valentine Brazell, and Nancy, his wife. We append a copy of the deed:

"To all to whom these presents shall come,
Greeting:

"Know ye, that I, Valentine Brazell, and

Nancy Brazell, his wife, of the County of Shelby, and State of Illinois, for and in consideration of the sum of three hundred dollars to me, in hand paid by Jesse B. Combs, of the county and state aforesaid, the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge, and ourselves hereof fully satisfied and contented, and thereof and of every part and parcel thereof, do exonerate, acquit, and discharge him, the said Jesse B. Combs, his heirs, executors, and administrators and assigns forever, by these presents having given, granted, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents do freely, fully and absolutely give, grant, bargain, and sell, alien, convey, and confirm unto the said Jesse B. Combs, his heirs and assigns forever, the east half of the south-west one-fourth section number twenty-five, township number eleven, north of range number three east, containing eighty acres of the lands in the Vandalia District, State of Illinois. To have and to hold the said granted and bargained premises with all the appurtenances, privileges, and commodities, to the same belonging, or in any wise appertaining to him the said Jesse B. Combs, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, forever, to his own proper use, benefit, and behoof forever, and I, the said Valentine Brazell, and Nancy Brazell his wife, for ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators or assigns, do covenant, promise and grant, to and with the said Jesse B. Combs, his heirs and assigns, that before the ensealing hereof, I am the true, sole, and lawful owner of the above-bargained premises, and we are lawfully seized and possessed of the same in my own proper name and right, as a good, perfect and absolute estate of inheritance in fee simple, and have in myself good right, full power, and lawful authority to grant, bargain, sell, convey, and confirm the said bargained premises in man-

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ner and form as aforesaid, and that the said Jesse B. Combs, his heirs and assigns, shall and may from time to time, and at all times forever hereafter, by force and virtue of these presents lawfully, and peaceably, and quietly have, hold and occupy, possess and enjoy, the said demised and bargained premises, with the appurtenances free and clear, and freely and clearly acquitted, exonerated, and discharged of from all and all for near or other gifts, grants, bargains, sales, leases, mortgages, wills, entails, jointures, dowers, judgments, executions, or incumbrances, of what name or nature soever, that might in any measure or degree abstract or make void this present deed.

"Furthermore, I, the said Valentine Brazell, and Nancy, his wife, for ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, do covenant and engage the above-demised premises, to him, the said Jesse B. Combs, his heirs and assigns forever, against the lawful claims and demands of any person or persons whatsoever, forever hereafter, to warrant, secure, and defend by these presents.

"Witness whereof we set our hands and seals this eleventh day of February, A. D. 1828.
Signed, sealed and delivered

"In the presence of

"JOSEPH OLIVER,
his

"VALENTINE (x) BRAZELL.
mark

her

"NANCY (x) BRAZELL."
mark

Joseph Oliver, who was then clerk of the county commissioners' court, certified to the correctness of the above document.

THE FIRST WILL—1831.

The last will and testament of Kenneth McIver, was the first to be presented for probate in the court of probate of Shelby county. This was on the 22d of February, 1832, and read as follows:

"In the name of God, Amen. I, Kenneth McIver, of Shelby county, and State of Illinois, being weak of body but of sound mind and memory, do make, ordain, and establish this to be my last will and testament, hereby revoking all others, and do hereby appoint Aleander McIver, my beloved wife, to be my executrix of this, my last will and testament.

"It is my will that all my just debts be paid. 1st. After my just debts are all paid, and funeral expenses, I do hereby devise and bequeath unto my beloved wife, Aleander, two portions during her widowhood, and after her marriage one-half of such portion to be equally divided among the remaining legatees, to-wit:

"2d. To my beloved daughter Margaret, two shares.

"3d. To my beloved daughter Sally Ward, one share.

"And to my beloved daughter Polly, one share.

"In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affix my seal, the 22d day of December, 1831.

"KENETH McIVER.

"Signed and acknowledged before us: (SEAL)

"B. W. GORIN.

"J. W. VAUGHAN."

HISTORIC SKETCH.

ASSESSMENTS OF SHELBY COUNTY.

WE GIVE A COMPARISON OF THE ASSESSMENTS OF THE YEARS 1859, 1880, AND 1899. IN 1899, UNDER THE NEW LAW, THE ASSESSED VALUATION WAS ONE-FIFTH OF THE REAL VALUE, WHILE IN 1859 AND 1880 THE ASSESSED VALUATION WAS ONE-THIRD OF THE REAL VALUE. THE ASSESSMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:

	NUMBER.			ASSESSED VALUE.		
	1859	1880	1899	1859	1880	1899
Horses	549	14,057	19,587	\$ 237,278	\$ 358,747	\$ 625,539
Neat cattle.....	13,907	24,103	25,265	142,012	309,305	608,899
Mules and asses.....	302	1,420	1,337	12,441	41,795	48,744
Sheep.....	16,962	16,976	14,354	16,962	23,896	47,003
Hogs.....	26,927	49,579	37,972	32,719	97,514	199,509
Steam engines, including boilers.....	141 $\frac{1}{2}$	30	141 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	8,417	30,253
Fire and burglar-proof safes.....	.....	22	114	.....	1,720	7,633
Billard and other tables.....	.....	6	11	.....	175	565
Carriages and wagons.....	1,763	5,257	8,822	62,340	86,715	134,349
Watches and clocks.....	1,395	4,052	5,995	9,910	11,587	25,747
Sewing and knitting machines.....	.....	2,156	3,798	.....	19,730	31,939
Pianos	12	119	312	1,390	8,062	25,773
Melodeons and organs.....	.....	239	1,272	.....	6,504	20,228
Franchises.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,000
Patent rights.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	85
Goods and merchandise.....	.....	.....	.....	78,088	162,075	428,150
Materials and manufactured articles.....	.....	.....	.....	1,250	5,783	6,750
Manufacturers' tools and machinery.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,937	52,260
Agricultural tools and machinery.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	79,079	122,448
Gold and silver plate and plated ware.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	163	2,020
Diamonds and jewelry.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	2,840
Money of bank, bankers, brokers, or stock jobber.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32,102	130,303
Credits other than bank, bankers, broker, or stock jobber.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,599	16,685
Money other than bank, bankers, broker, or stock jobber.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	164,630	290,625
Credits other than bank, bankers, broker, or stock jobber.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	243,211	714,515
Bonds or stocks .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,221	134,906
Bridge property .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	250
Property of saloons and eating houses.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	790	5,655
Household and office furniture.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	117,849	329,438
All other property not otherwise listed.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	339,147
Dogs .....	.....	.....	.....	3,597	.....	.....

ASSESSED VALUATION OF LANDS IN TOWNSHIPS OF SHELBY COUNTY—1899.

	Per. Prop.		
	Land.	Lots.	Assd. Val.
Oeonee.....\$	192,403	\$ 12,657	\$ 40,218
Herrick	35,154	7,132	12,450
Cold Spring	81,255	77	16,796
Tower Hill	123,011	21,117	30,688
Rural.....	181,507	.....	35,900
Flat Branch	158,598	.....	19,723
Moweaqua	148,321	69,760	58,341
Dry Point	138,703	24,346	49,479
Rose	106,635	4,938	24,720

Ridge.....	231,814	46,508
Pickaway.....	144,598	29,979
Penn.....	107,440	14,551
Holland	86,752	4,564
Shelbyville.....	144,348	226,468
Okaw.....	158,886	12,339
Todd's Point.....	118,434	4,364
Prairie.....	188,289	20,140
Richland.....	177,748	13,054
Windsor	131,280	52,175
Sigel.....	63,663	12,460
Big Spring	103,054	1,085
Ash Grove	226,480	43,998
Total	\$3,048,363	\$486,676
		\$924,050

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Shelby county has not been spared the disgrace of having within her borders, criminals of all classes, even to the murderer, and perpetrator of other heinous crimes. But it is a matter of credit to her, that her officers have ever been zealous in apprehending and bringing to justice the guilty ones, and in administering adequate punishment to the misdoer. We append a few of the court documents, bearing on some of the earlier cases:

A MURDER CASE.

"Tuesday morning, 13th April, 1830.
Court met pursuant to adjournment.

"The People vs. Benj. Warnock. Indictment for murder. Implicated with Robert Carlyle.

"On this day came the defendant, Benjamin Warnock, in open court, and enters his appearance in this case, and for plea says he is not guilty in manner and form as are alleged in the indictment, and to which plea the State's Attorney joins issue. The petit jury, summonsed to attend this court, being discharged, a state's jury was ordered to be summonsed, to-wit: Isaac Martin, James A. Baker, David Hinton, James Ledbetter, Barnet Bone, William Bone, John Hill, John Richardson, Isaac Renfo, and Bennet Robinson, who, being elected, tried and sworn to try the issue joined upon the oaths, do say that we, the jury, find the defendant not guilty. Therefore it is considered by the court now here, that the defendant be discharged, and go hence without delay."

One of the most important cases of the early days was tried in the May term of circuit court, in 1842. Robert Sellars was indicted for the murder of James Rodman. At his trial he was found guilty of murder in the first degree,

and sentenced to be hanged. The following is his sentence, as appears on the record:

"That the defendant, Robert Sellars, be again remanded to jail, there to remain until Tuesday, the 21st day of June next, when he shall be taken to the place of execution, and there, between the hours of ten o'clock in the forenoon and two o'clock of the afternoon of that day, he be hanged by the neck until he is dead."

Through the efforts of his attorneys, Sellars was granted a new trial, when he pleaded guilty of manslaughter, and was sentenced for eight years to hard labor in the penitentiary. Upon his release at the expiration of his sentence, he returned to this county, and was soon afterward killed by being thrown from a horse.

A CASE OF FLOGGING.

"People vs. John Spalding. Indictment for Larceny.

"The said people by the attorney appeared in court; and the defendant, in his proper person, and for plea says he is not guilty in manner and form as is alleged in said indictment—to which plea the people joined issue. Whereupon came a jury, to-wit: William E. Weger, Andrew Miller, William Martin, Benjamin Dubney, Benjamin Moberly, Jonathan Hill, John Tipsoaid, John Whitley, Sen., Allen Reed, Joseph Reed, John Abbet, Jr., and Daniel Siscoe—who, being elected, tried and sworn well and truly to try the issue joined on their oaths, do say: 'We, the jury, find the defendant guilty in manner and form as in said indictment, mentioned to be of the value therein stated,' and the said jurors were thereupon discharged until tomorrow morning at nine o'clock, to which time the court adjourned.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Tuesday morning, Sep. 16th, 1828.

"Court met pursuant to adjournment. Present,

"HON. T. W. SMITH, Judge.

"The People vs. John Spalding. Indictment for Larceny.

"This day the prisoner was led to the bar by the sheriff, and having nothing to say why judgment should not be pronounced against him, it is ordered and adjudged by the court now here, that the defendant, John Spalding, receive for the offense aforesaid, thirty-nine lashes on his bare back, and the sheriff of Shelby county, between the hours of twelve o'clock and two o'clock, on this day, execute this judgment. And it is further ordered, adjudged and directed that the defendant make his fine to the people of this state, in the sum of two dollars and seventy-one cents, being one-half the value of the articles stolen, and that he be imprisoned for the term of three days, and that he stand committed until the fine and costs are paid."

The whipping post was located on the public square and to this the prisoner was fastened while the sentence of the court was carried out, in the presence of the onlookers.

NATURALIZATION PAPER.

We append a copy of the first naturalization papers issued in Shelby county, at the May, 1847, term of the circuit court. Solomon Stilgebauer was the name of the alien seeking citizenship:
"State of Illinois, Shelby County.

"Solomon Stilgebauer, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that it is his intention, bona fide, to become a citizen of the United States of America, and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state and sovereignty whatsoever, and particularly to the

sovereignty or kingdom of Bavaria, in Germany, of which he was formerly a subject.

"SOLOMON STILGEBAUER.

"Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 27th day of May, 1847.

"WILLIAM L. PRENTICE, Clerk."

"Application for Citizenship of Solomon Stilgebauer, an alien.

"On this day the said Solomon Stilgebauer, by his attorney, and it appearing to the court, by the record, exhibited in proof, that at the May term of the Shelby county circuit court, in the state of Illinois, for the year 1847, the said applicant had declared on oath his intention to become a citizen of the United States of America, in pursuance of law, and the court being satisfied from the evidence of Anthony Thornton and William Royse, that the said applicant had resided within the United States more than five years, and in the county of Shelby, in the state of Illinois, more than one year before the present term of this court, and that during the said five years he has behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of the constitution of the United States, and that he has been well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same. And the said applicant having declared on oath in open court, that he would support the constitution of the United States, and he willingly, absolutely and entirely renounced and abjured all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign prince, potentate, state and sovereignty, whatsoever, and particularly to the King of Bavaria, in Germany.

"It is therefore ordered by the court that these proceedings be entered of records, and that the said Solomon Stilgebauer is entitled to and is hereby admitted to all the rights, privileges and immunities of a citizen of the United States of America.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

"It is further ordered that the said applicant pay the costs hereof, etc."

FIRST DIVORCE.

"Bennet Robinson vs. Elizabeth Robinson.
Libel for Divorce.

"It appearing to the satisfaction of the court that the parties were lawfully married, as is set forth in said libel; and that the said Elizabeth did voluntarily and wilfully absent herself from the libellant for two years in continuance; and proof of the pendency of this libel having been made according to law. It is ordered, adjudged, and decreed, that the banns of matrimony heretofore subsisting between the said parties, be, and they are hereby dissolved—and the prayer of the said bill be granted; and that the said libellant pay the costs attending the prosecution of his said libel."

LEGISLATORS FROM THIS DISTRICT.

We copy the names of the legislators from Shelby county, or the district in which it is situated, since its organization, in 1827:

SENATORS.

William Williamson	1832—'35
Peter Warren	1836—'49
Hiram Rountree	1849—'51
Gabriel R. Jernigan	1853—'55
Joel S. Post	1857—'59
Richard J. Oglesby	'61
H. M. Vandever	1863—'65
John M. Woodson	1867—'69
Solomon Lewis	'71
Charles Voris	1871—'73
Thomas Brewer	1875—'77

Erastus N. Rinehart	1879—'83
L. B. Stephenson	1884—'88
Samuel W. Wright, Jr.	1888—'92
Isaac B. Craig	1892—'96
S. C. Pemberton	1896—

REPRESENTATIVES.

George H. Beeler	1832—'33
Thomas B. Trower	1834—'35
John S. Turley	1836—'37
William F. Thornton	1838—'39
Owen Prentice	1840—'41
Jonathan B. Howard	1842—'43
John S. Turley	1844—'45
Edward Evey	'49
Anthony Thornton	'51
S. W. Moulton	1853—'57
Thomas Brewer	'59
Thomas W. Harris	'61
Reuben Roessler	'63
William Middlesworth	'65
Charles Voris	1867—'69
John Casey	'71
Edward Roessler	"
William H. McDonald	'73
William H. Blakely	"
Benson Wood	"
William Gillmore	'75
William Middlesworth	"
William Chew	"
Gershom Monahan	"
Nathaniel P. Robinson	"
Thomas J. Fritts	"
William M. Abraham	'79
James L. Ryan	"
Baitly Scarlett	"
Alfred C. Campbell	1880—'82
George D. Chafee	"
F. M. Richardson	"

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Charles L. Roane	1883—'84
Thomas N. Henry	"
John H. Baker	"
Thomas N. Henry	1885—'86
John H. Baker	"
Walter C. Headen	"
John H. Baker	1887—'88
John J. Schneider	"
Joseph P. Condo	"
William G. Cochran	1889—'90
John J. Schneider	"
Frank Spitler	"
James Laughlin	1891—'92
Philip Wiwi	"
Walter C. Headen	"
Philip Wiwi	1893—'94
Leverett S. Baldwin	"
Albert Campbell	"
Alex. H. McTaggart	1895—'96
Joseph P. Barricklow	"
W. H. Wallace	"
Caleb R. Torrence	1897—'98
Isaac B. Craig	"
Joseph P. Barricklow	"
Carl S. Burgett	1899—'00
Charles Lee	"
George R. Graybill	"
Carl S. Burgett	1891—'02
Robt. G. Hammond	"
William Beem	"

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

John Whitley, Jr., Levi Casey, William Weger	1827
Levi Casey, Jesse Rhodes, James Jordan . .	1828
Levi Casey, Jesse Rhodes, Edward Reed . .	1829
Levi Casey, Ed Reed, Benjamin Walden . .	1830
Bushrod W. Henry, George Parks, John Brally.—August	1832

B. W. Henry, George Park, James Goodwin—December	1832
Aaron McKenzie, Lemuel Dazey, Barnet Bone	1834
John Storm, James Freeman, Daniel Price . .	1836
John Storm, Daniel Price, T. J. Kellam . .	1837
John Storm, Daniel Dawdy, John Douthit . .	1838
John Douthit, D. Dawdy, T. W. Short . . .	1840
John Douthit, T. W. Short, Gideon Edward .	1841
T. W. Short, G. Edward, Rolls Calvert . . .	1842
R. Calvert, G. Parks, E. Hooper	1843
George Parks, John Houchins, B. W. Henry .	1844
George Parks, B. W. Henry, T. W. Short . .	1845
T. W. Short, G. Parks, D. W. Dawdy . . .	1846
T. W. Short, James Brownlee, John Morrison	1847
John Morrison, James Brownlee, Peter Parker	1848

In 1849, and after the adoption of the constitution, the county judges performed the duties before performed by the county commissioners.

PROBATE JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

Joseph Oliver	1829 to 1837
William Nicholls	1837 to 1839
Edward Evey	1839 to 1849

COUNTY JUDGES.

William Williamson; D. M. Robinson, Russell Fletcher, associates	1849
William Williamson; Russell Fletcher, John Casey, associates	1853
William Williamson; John Casey, Joseph Leathers, associates	1854
Peter Fleming; John Casey, John R. Warren, associates	1857
Peter Fleming	1857 to 1873

HISTORIC SKETCH.

J. Rose	1873 to 1876
W. W. Hess	1876 to 1887
T. E. Ames	1887 to 1896
W. H. Ragan	1896 to 1898
T. H. Righter	1898 to —

MASTERS IN CHANCERY.

Joseph Oliver	to 1847
W. S. Prentice	1847 to 1849
Wm. Royse	1849 to 1851
Burrel Roberts.....	1851 to 1855
I. V. Lee	1855 to 1865
W. R. Reed	1865 to 1874
W. W. Hess	1874 to 1878
W. A. Cochran	1878 to 1884
J. William Lloyd	1884 to 1888
W. B. Townsend	1888 to 1889
W. A. Trower	1889 to 1893
E. A. Richardson	1893 to —

CLERKS OF THE COUNTY COURT.

Joseph Oliver	1827 to 1843
Burrel Roberts	1843 to 1868
Wm. Lloyd	1868 to 1877
James Frazer	1877 to 1886
Alfred F. Allen	1886 to 1894
Israel R. Small	1894 to 1898
Albert Allen	1898 to —

CLERKS OF CIRCUIT COURT.

Joseph Oliver	1828 to 1846
William S. Prentice	1846 to 1848
William Royse	1848, but retired
I. V. Lee.....	1849, to fill unexpired term
Burrel Roberts	1851 to 1853
I. V. Lee	1853 to 1864
W. A. Cochran	1864 to 1880
Thomas Graybill.....	1880 to 1888

Thomas H. Graham	1888 to 1900
Wm. E. McCormick.....	1900 to —

SHERIFFS.

William Williamson	1827 to 1833
Jacob L. Fleming	1833 to 1836
Peter Fleming	1836 to 1850
B. F. Frazer	1850 to 1853
A. E. Douthit	1853 to 1854
B. F. Frazer	1854 to 1855
Jacob Culter	1855 to 1856
Samuel Herod	1856 to 1858
Jacob Culter	1858 to 1860
J. J. Shaw	1860, resigned in 1861
William A. Trower	1861 to 1862
Marcus Richardson	1862 to 1864
F. B. Thompson	1864 to 1866
J. C. Huffer.....	1866 to 1868
J. R. Moore	1868 to 1870
Marshall Howard	1870 to 1876
J. H. Silver	1876 to 1880
Lafayette Higginbotham	1880 to 1886
Wm. H. Shaw	1886 to 1890
Daniel Culvert	1890 to 1894
Hereules C. Courtright	1894 to 1898
Thomas Miner	1898 to 1902

CORONERS.

Isaac Martin	1827 to 1837
James Davis	1837 to 1843
James Hamilton	1843 to 1846
David Harris	1846
Albert Doyle, part of	1846 to 1850
J. C. Corley	1850 to 1852
W. A. Clements	1852 to 1853
W. A. Trower	1853 to 1855
B. Durkee	1855 to 1866
B. T. Kenningham	1866 to 1868
J. A. Hubbard	1868 to 1870

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Wm. Sampson	1870 to 1880
Thomas A. Hagan	1892 to 1896
R. L. Garis	1896 to 1900
James H. Horn	present incumbent

COUNTY TREASURERS.

Shelton Alphin	1827 to 1829
P. Rhodes	1829 to 1832
Jno. Hambleton	1832 to 1834
William Haden	1834 to 1836
Jno. J. Page	1836 to 1838
Thomas Headen	1838
John J. Page	1838
Burrel Roberts	1839 to 1843
James Cutler	1843 to 1871
George W. Keeler	1871 to 1875
William C. Miller	1875 to 1877
Archibald Shelton	1877 to 1886
Wallace E. Walker	1886 to 1890
A. M. Craddock	1890 to 1894
Wallace E. Walker	1894 to 1898
J. F. Ulmer	1898 to —

COUNTY SURVEYORS.

William Williamson	1827 to 1847
E. G. Shellenbarger	1847 to 1853
J. Brownlee	1853 to 1857
Elias Smith	1857 to 1867
Mr. Roessler	1867 to 1871
Elias Smith	1871 to 1875
S. Conover	1875 to 1878
John P. Brisben	1878 to 1888
G. W. Dickinson	1888 to —

STATE AND COUNTY ATTORNEYS.

William H. Brown, pro tem, . . .	1830 to 1837
Josiah Fisk	1837 to 1840
F. Forman, pro tem	1840 to 1845
Wm. H. Russel	1845 to 1846
Harry Lee	1846 to 1851

David B. Campbell	1851 to 1853
E. Rusk	1853 to 1856
M. Moore	1856 to 1858
John R. Eden	1858 to 1861
J. P. Boyd	1861 to 1862
William G. Patterson, pro tem . . .	1862 to 1863
J. R. Cunningham	1863 to 1869
M. B. Thompson	1869 to 1873
L. B. Stephenson	1873 to 1880
W. C. Kelley	1880 to 1888
W. B. Townsend	1888 to 1892
W. O. Wallace	1892 to 1900
J. K. P. Grider	1900 to —

CIRCUIT JUDGES.

Theophilus Smith	1828 to 1835
Thomas Ford (presiding by agreement, with Sidney Breeze) . . .	1835
Sidney Breese	1836 to 1840
Samuel H. Treat	1841 to 1845
Gustavus Koerner	1845 to 1847
Samuel H. Treat	1847 to 1849
David Davis	1849 to 1853
Charles Emerson	1853 to 1862
Charles H. Constable	1862 to 1863
Charles Emerson	1864 to 1867
A. J. Gallagher	1867 to 1873
H. M. Vandever	1873 to 1876
W. R. Welch, Charles S. Zane, H. M. Vandever, (under new law)	1877 to 1879
W. R. Welch, H. M. Vandever, J. J. Phillips	1879 to 1880
Judge Gross was appointed to fill vacancy caused by death of Judge Welch.)	
Judges Creighton, Shirley and Foulke	1880 to
Judges Ames, Farmer and Dwight	to

WILLIAM O. WALLACE.



ALBERT CARRUTHERS.



REMINISCENCES.

BY ATTORNEY GEORGE B. RHOADS.

CHAPTER VII.

From the title of this chapter the reader might think it necessary for the same to be written by one who had lived a great many years amongst the scenes which he attempts to portray, and whose versatile mind could wander at will along the corridors of time, and see again the vistas of the past. However, this is not essential, as one who has been privileged to listen to "the tales of other days" and to have access to records, official and otherwise, and possesses a bright mind, enabling him to arrange such anecdotes and incidents entertainingly, is competent to treat this subject. We are pleased with the collection of Reminiscences furnished us by Mr. Rhoads, and are confident the readers of this volume will likewise find them interesting.—The Publishers.

The famous criminal trial of pioneer times was that of Robert Sellars, for the murder of James Rodman. The indictment was returned in May, 1842, and trial took place at once, the defendant being found guilty and sentenced to be hung June 21, 1842. E. D. Baker, A. T. Bledsoe, and Anthony Thornton defended; J. Lamborn, attorney general, prosecuted; Samuel H. Treat was the presiding judge. After sentence, the prisoner asked for a new trial, alleging that one of the jurors, Alfred Howlett, had expressed an opinion against him before the trial; and in sup-

port of his motion presented to the court the affidavits of himself, Addison Moran, Jacob Kellar, and John D. Brewster, while the state filed fourteen affidavits supporting the character of Howlett, and two charging Sellars with perjury in his own affidavit. Judge Treat overruled the motion, and Sellars appealed. The Supreme court reversed the case and ordered a new trial.

By the time the case came back to the circuit court, the legislature had changed the criminal code, and the original murder indictment was nolled; another, charging manslaughter under the new law, being returned. J. A. McDougall was now attorney general. Sellars plead guilty and took a sentence to the Alton penitentiary for eight years. Lamborn, former prosecutor, and J. Butterfield now took up the case for Sellars, and (1844) brought habeas corpus in the supreme court, arguing that a sentence under a law passed after the commission of the crime was a nullity. Judge Treat, then a member of that tribunal, refused to take part in the consideration of the case. The state contended that the plea of guilty had been voluntarily made, and should stand. The prisoner's counsel created a sensation by citing Martial L. XI, 9 Epig. 59, as the law governing the case, as follows:

"My barber, with his razor on my throat,
Asks me for wealth, for freedom, and what not;
I promise all while danger ties my hands,
For not the barber, but the rogue demands;
But when fierce razor to safe sheath withdrew,
I'd spoil his dancing and his fiddling too."

The court held the authority not applic-

HISTORIC SKETCH.

able and ordered the prisoner back to Alton to serve out his term; but the footnote to the case in the reports still gravely attests the classical knowledge of defendant's counsel, and publishes the quotation as part of the incidents of the case.

* * * *

The first circuit court held in Shelby county convened Sept. 15, 1828, under Theophilus W. Smith, judge presiding. Joseph Oliver was circuit clerk, and he took the oath of office in Fayette county. His bond was \$2,000, an enormous sum in those days; the sureties were Wm. Hall, Sr., Shelton Alphin, and William Williamson. The last named gentleman was sheriff.

The first case, James Hooper and Rufus Inman vs. Elijah Jones, an action on the case, was dismissed by the parties without trial. The third case brought was a divorce suit, and the whole term had no suit involving more than \$60.

As yet the county had no seal, and the clerk authenticated the process by sealing with red wax, over which he stuck an oblong piece of paper, pressing through the paper, into the wax, a square of grill work. Judge Moulton yet has in his collection a similar sealing tool. No printed forms were in use. The clerk wrote everything, and the quaint lettering and varied paper used is worth pulling down the old dusty file boxes to see. Along in '32 some printed subpoenas were bought, and from thence on, printed forms gradually came into use. Later the legislature passed a law permitting a seal to be made by using the word "seal," surrounded by a serawl, and for a number of years the circuit clerk sealed all his documents in that manner. It is not until along in the forties that the present seal appears, and file covers appear at a still later date.

The first case that the files indicate to have been bitterly fought was a personal injury suit

brought in 1831. The bundle of papers is fat; many a modern case cannot equal it. The plaintiff claimed the huge sum of twenty-five dollars damages! In this case the deposition of a mid-wife living in the southern part of Illinois was taken by written interrogatories. So far as known, this was the first *deditus* ever issued in the county.

Not a single paper filed by those early lawyers can be found until in '32. Then a few appear here and there, and the signature is simply the last name with no initials. It is not until in 1840 that the records show the names of known attorneys, but from that year on the Linders, Fieklins, Thornton, Moulton, Gregory, Field, and other familiar names appear rapidly, and shortly thereafter the full name of the attorney is used.

* * * *

The lot upon which the Unitarian church now stands was at one time the property of James B. Henry. One day Gen. Thornton and Henry struck up a trade, whereby the General bought the lot for \$50, cash down, and took Henry's title deeds, that the new deed conveying the property to him might be drawn. Without waiting for the delivery of the papers, however, the General took possession of the premises and erected some improvements there on. Meanwhile, the making of the deed was in some manner delayed, until one day, Henry died rather suddenly with no deed yet signed. His heirs were minors and could make no conveyance.

The General never let a little situation like that discourage him, so he hired A. P. Fiekl, Daniel Gregory, and H. Eddy, lawyers, and went into court before Judge Breeze, asking that the court make him a deed. Levi Davis was guardian, ad litem, for the Henry children, and he, with W. Vaughan, the administrator of the es-

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tate, and Sophia Henry, the widow, appeared before his honor and admitted Thornton was entitled to his deed. To the utter astonishment of all Judge Breeze decided (Oct. 1, '37) that the court had no power to make such an order, and dismissed the proceedings at the General's costs.

The General was by this time thoroughly aroused, and promptly appealed the case to the supreme court, and in June, 1840, that court granted Thornton his deed. One of the supreme court justices (Smith) was so doubtful of the decision that he filed a qualifying opinion.

This was the first case ever appealed from the Shelby county circuit court.

* * * *

The old road up Brewster's hill, into Shelbyville, differed much from the well-graded, comfortably-inclined thoroughfare of today. The bridge, in early days, crossed a hundred yards north of the present one. The road wound along the river bank south, to near the ford. There it turned up the ravine running northwest past what is now Geo. R. Graybill's residence, coming to the top of the hill near where John King now lives, whence it came down Water street to the public square. In the square the old court house stood in the center of Main street, and Thornton's store was east, almost where the last brick building on the south side of Main now stands. North, where is now a livery stable, and from thence to Yost & Andes' corner, were numerous wooden buildings. In one of these Judge Moulton had an office.

Main street, in those days, was full of stumps, and timber stood from Broadway west, to the hill beyond the hollow south of the F. M. B. A. mill. Eastward, where the cut has been made to straighten the approach to the present bridge, the hill extended south some 150 feet, and the embankment on this side rose much

higher than the present street level. The road was bad, even for those days, and tradition tells of many an exciting accident that took place in the rugged roadbed. Through the river bottom ran a pile slough bridge, raised above the mud, and at times covered with water. Generally it was in bad repair, and more than one driver risked his life and maimed his horses in passing over it.

The first bridge worthy of the name was a covered wooden structure. It stood for years, being still in use during the Civil war. Shelby county, in that exciting time, was honeycombed with organizations in sympathy with the south, and lodges of the Knights of the Golden Circle abounded. A favorite meeting place of some of the hot-heads was this old covered bridge, and there, on many a night, guarded by sentinels, who prevented intrusion by outsiders, wild plans were discussed. From these meetings came the "raid" on Shelbyville, made one day in war times, when some of the more enthusiastic members of the Circle thought they would "clean out the black abolitionists." Judge Thornton, whose influence was unbounded, quenched the fire by meeting the would-be rioters at the top of Brewster's hill, telling them, in language at once forceful and convincing, that they were a "set of unmitigated fools," and sent them home in disgrace.

Then the south side of Main street ran into the hollow, and was much lower than the north side. Along where the Bolinger stores are now, the sidewalk was much higher than the opposite walk, and lifted from the ground. On the south side the Union, started in 1863, had its office where the Chafee block now is, and more than once the rowdies gathered under the north walk, swearing vengeance upon the editor and the paper, and threatening divers fearful things if

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certain editorials were continued. But the newspaper men came and went, with no interruption from the crowd overlooking their entrance. The unevenness of the road continued until a number of years into the 60's. Indeed, Brewster's hill was not put into its present shape until in the 90's, though by '83 it was well graded. Some of the sharpest law suits in the county's history took place between the township and county authorities before the road was improved. The old ravine has been closed for twenty years now; but many a citizen of Shelbyville can yet point out the way, rough and roundabout, by which he first entered the town.

* * * *

Shelbyville's first mayor, under its special charter, was W. A. Trower, who defeated D. W. Marks in a spirited contest. Prior to that time the town had been organized as a village, with a president and board of trustees. A special charter, drawn by the local bar and lobbied through the legislature, organized the city with a mayor and four aldermen, one from each ward. The mayor served for four years, and had the powers of a justice of the peace. Each spring the street commissioner was elected, and the license question submitted to a vote. When saloons were voted out the "jug law" governed.

When Mr. Trower took office, the city's financial condition would have puzzled an expert. Whom the city owed, and how much to each, and still more important, how it was to be paid, were questions hopelessly mixed. The council made the new mayor financial agent. He collected moneys and paid bills as best he could. One of the first problems struck was the town clock, now on the school house. The city had purchased it of "Pat" Mitchell, for \$650, on credit, giving a note drawing 10 per cent. interest. Along in his first year as mayor, four saloon

keepers were arrested and brought before Mr. Trower charged with illegal liquor selling. Trial took place in the Haydon block. His honor fined three of them \$250 apiece, and the fourth man \$150—a total of \$900 in one day. Strange to say the defendants did not appeal, but paid in the money immediately. With this unexpected lift the town clock note was paid, having stood less than a year.

Incidentally it should be added that Mitchell had bought the clock on a year's time from Canadian parties, and he received his money from the city before the year was up. When the bill became due "Pat" disputed it, alleging that the clock did not come up to contract. A lively lawsuit followed, in which the wholesalers worsted "Pat," and he paid for the clock.

* * * *

The Democratic conventions held in Shelbyville have been famous, not only by reason of the bitter and heated contests for the nomination, but also from the fierce campaigns following them. Incidentally it may be mentioned that the nominee has always been defeated.

The famous one of them all was held in the opera hall, away back in 1878. The county was then in the 15th district, composed of Edgar, Clark, Cumberland, Shelby, Moultrie, Effingham, Lawrence, Jasper, and Crawford. Greenbackism was then at its flood tide, and Shelby county and the 15th district were badly tinctured with it. John R. Eden, retiring member and afterwards candidate for governor, and a politician named Bishop, each sought the nomination. Shelby county had a contesting delegation, and in the organization of the committee on credentials one member, counted on as sure for Eden, voted with the Bishop forces. Consequently the committee tied, and the matter ended in the seating of one half of each delegation. A dead-

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lock ensued in the convention. All day long, Shelby county, when factional feeling had reached the fever point, voted obstinately "Nine for Bishop and nine for Eden." So often was that phrase repeated that to this day one sometimes hears its sing-song sound.

Night came on and still the battle raged with no change. Eventually, by some sudden impulse always unexplained, an unknown man, named Disches, was nominated. Though late at night, the convention appointed a committee to notify the nominee and invite him to address the delegates. Just what happened will never be known. The story which raged all through the district, and which yet lingers in the memories of old time campaigners, is that Disches, who was not a teetotaler by any means, was found by the committee, asleep in a wheel barrow in the public road near where the New Neal now stands, and in a condition that would follow liberal potations. Waking him up, the committee informed him of their mission, and requested him to go with them to the hall. Blinking at the spokesman for a moment, the nominee replied, "This beats h—l."

That remark rang through the district continuously during the campaign. In Shelby county the factional fight still raged, and Albert P. Forsythe, the Greenback candidate, (the Republicans had no nominee,) carried much of the local Eden strength. Every where Disches was greeted with the cry, "This beats h—l;" and while it probably did nothing of the kind, it did beat Disches.

The next convention here met October 1, 1895, in the circuit court room. In the landslide of '94 a republican had been elected from the present (18th) congressional district, defeating Ed. Lane, who had held office for a number of terms; but before taking his seat, the con-

gressman-elect died, and Gov. Altgeld called a special election. Ed. Lane, John W. Yantis, and Col. Albert, were the contestants for the nomination. The first ballot showed a deadlock, and all day long, till late at night, the roll calls went on. At one time each man came successively within one vote of the nomination. On the 324th ballot, the Albert men went over to Lane, deciding the contest. The campaign never exhibited any warmth, and in November the republicans carried every county in the district. Even Shelby went republican, the first time in its history: and if the signs round the corners are to be relied on, that will be the last time it deserts the Democratic column.

* * * *

William Middlesworth, just prior to the war, dealt heavily in fine horses and, for awhile, had among his hands one Columbus Nutterfield. For some time before 1857, Middlesworth, every once in awhile, lost a horse or two without being able to discover the thief or regain his property. Finally he put a high fence round his barn and turned two bull-dogs into the lot. Apparently this put a stop to the thieving.

One snowy night, March 27, 1857, Middlesworth heard a noise at the barn and, in company with his hands, went out to investigate the matter. Two men were discovered leading away a couple of horses. It was bright moonlight and as soon as the marauders saw the new comers, they ran. One escaped, mounting over the fence by means of a pile of lumber laid near it, but the other, Nutterfield, was fired at as he bounded over, and wounded in the neck. He ran to the railroad and followed it to Robinson creek, where his wound was dressed; from thence he disappeared.

In the winter of '59-'60, some one visiting in Springfield saw Nutterfield's picture exposed

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in a photographer's sign case, and by means of this clew he was apprehended and brought back to Shelbyville. Here, after a time, in order to extort a confession, a group of men took him outside of town one evening, and made all preparations to hang him; dug a grave in his presence and ordered him to make ready for death. His fears overcame him, and he confessed, implicating one Frederick Bacon, of the western part of Illinois, as his accomplice, and locating most of the stolen horses at Peoria, from whence, in due time, they were recovered.

Bacon was arrested, and in April, 1860, both he and Nutterfield were indicted. Bacon succeeded in getting a change of venue to Macon county, and Nutterfield's case was continued. Between terms the trial in Macon county took place. Nutterfield, when taken up from here as a witness, absolutely refused to testify against his confederate, and Bacon went free.

After Nutterfield had been brought back to this county, the indignation over the escape of Bacon grew until one evening, in the fall of '60, a mob formed and, proceeding to the jail, in the absence of the turnkey secured the keys and took Nutterfield from his cell—but only after a fearful struggle—and going to the bluff east of the C. & E. I. round house, hung him, without ceremony, to an oak tree there standing.

The tree remained for years, and has been cut down recently. Its location is yet pointed out to the younger generation, as the site of Shelly county's only lynching.

Cholera struck Shelbyville in 1855, the year before the railroad came, and it nearly depopulated the town. Those who could, left; and the ones remaining were not enough to nurse the sick or bury the dead. One of the martyrs was Rev. J. M. Grout, the pastor of the Presbyterian church. He stayed with his congregation and per-

formed the funeral rites over the dead, until, while en route to the cemetery at the funeral of Mrs. Nancy Smith, the mother of Mesdames A. Thornton and Geo. D. Chafee, the malady seized him and he died in a nearby house. His burial place is unknown, for no one remained to record the location of the graves.

It was this epidemic that produced Capt. Stamps. By some means, the Captain, who owed his title to the Mexican war, escaped the plague, and devoted himself to caring for the sick and burying the dead. He made his rounds of mercy day and night, kindly and cheerily, until he won the lasting affection of our people. From that time on Capt. Stamps had the freedom of the town. He loved his cups and at times became very happy over them; but never, save once, regardless of his jollifyings, was he arrested. The police many times cared for him that he might not suffer from exposure, and he never was anything but good natured. Once, however, he fell afoul of the law. A strange policeman, in the 60's, arrested him on the charge of drunkenness. The justice promptly dismissed the case and the policeman lost his job. But the Captain was not satisfied. He had been charged with drunkenness and wanted a trial. He must be vindicated to be pacified.

Finally, the constable solemnly impaneled a jury and witnesses were called and sworn, all of whom testified that on the day in question, they had not seen the Captain drunk. They did not, in fact, say whether they had seen him at all or not, that day, and strange to say the prosecution did not press the question. After a few moments' deliberation the jury returned a verdict of not guilty. And it is said the Captain celebrated right royally.

To the day of his death the Captain was a familiar figure on our streets. The younger folk

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still remember him, with his convivial ways and the universal good will in which he was held. His death, but a comparatively recent event, was the occasion for a monster funeral, for which the stores and the court house all closed, and business was suspended. His monument, to be seen by the passer-by in the city cemetery, was erected by public subscription, and his memory is universally revered.

* * * *

The only legal hanging in Shelby county was the execution of Joseph Myers, July 29, 1870, for the murder of Passibo Calhoun.

Calhoun lived near Beck's creek, protecting the lands of the Illinois Central and Gen. Thornton from timber thieves. His activity and vigilance brought upon him the hatred of some of his neighbors, and in March, 1868, he received letters warning him to leave the country at once, otherwise he would be shot. A few days later, meeting Phillip Grass, an old man aged 75, in the road, Calhoun accused him of sending the letters, and in the ensuing quarrel Calhoun shot Grass, inflicting a flesh wound in the arm.

Wm. Grass, a son of the old man, and Joseph Myers, a son-in-law, together with Samuel Moore, Hubbard Holder, James Bunch, Wesley Bland, Warren Bland, John Brown, and others unknown, to the total number of a dozen, the night of April, 11, 1868, set out for Calhoun's house where they fired his barn, hoping to draw him outside and shoot him by the light of the burning building. But a rain extinguished the flames before they had made much headway, and the crowd left. The morning of April 12, they returned, and, after again setting fire to the barn, sent a son of John Bunch to the house to tell Calhoun of the fire. Calhoun, thus aroused, came out to save his property. The mob, hidden behind neighboring stumps and trees, fired upon

him as he came into the open and he fell, with the cry: "You have shot me dead," accompanied by a fearful curse upon his murderers. Two bullets lodged in the abdomen, killing him almost instantly.

The murderers escaped, and for nearly two years no clew to the criminals was found. Gradually one circumstance after another came to light, until, in 1869, Joseph Myers and Phillip Grass were arrested, and the county offered a reward of \$500 for the capture of Hubbard, William Grass, and Samuel Moore. Grass and Holder were found in Missouri and Moore gave himself up, promising to turn state's evidence if he would be released. This agreement was made, and the trial took place before Judge Gallagher, at the spring term of court in 1870. The jurors who tried the case were Wm. H. Doyle, John H. Huffinan, James Salyers, Amos Shaw, Salem Lantz, Thomas Brimer, John B. Shadé, John F. Shanks, Wade Manning, Nerr Middlesworth, David Yost, and Chas. L. Herron. Twenty-eight witnesses had been put under bond of \$100 each to appear and testify.

Moulton, Chafee, and a lawyer named Thompson, prosecuted; Thornton, Eden, A. T. Hall, and Geo. R. Wendling, defended.

The trial commenced June 22, 1870, and lasted until the following Monday. The jury were out all night, and about 10 o'clock Tuesday morning returned a verdict sentencing Myers and Holder to be hung, and sending Phillip Grass to the penitentiary for life, and William Grass for 20 years.

New trial being denied, the Grasses were taken to Joliet, and the date for execution fixed for July 29th. Meanwhile, strenuous efforts were put forth to persuade Gov. Palmer to commute both sentences to life imprisonment. All this time Rev. Steadman, pastor of the Baptist

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church, had regularly visited the condemned men in their cell, and succeeded in getting a confession from each. Myers told a straightforward tale, saying that he had a rifle and the others shotguns, save Holder, who had a revolver, and that he, Myers, should be hung, as he fired the fatal shot. Holder's confession was decidedly evasive and unsatisfactory, and the effect of them both was to convince the public more strongly than ever that Holder was the ringleader of the mob, and the guiltiest wretch of them all. Ten days before the execution, Myers, under a strong guard, was taken to the river and baptized by Rev. Steadman. Later, on the Tuesday before the hanging of Myers, Holder likewise was baptized, an audience of 2,500 witnessing the ceremony.

Strong efforts were still being put forth to save the men, and on the night before the hanging a telegram came from Gov. Palmer commuting Holder's sentence to life imprisonment. Late that night the men, who occupied the same cell, were roused, told of their respective fates, and Holder taken away at once before the town knew of it. With the morning came a great storm of public wrath. The chief offender had escaped, and the crowd vowed that if Holder was not hung, Myers should not be. It was a critical moment. The town was packed and the crowd included many women and children. A huge shed, erected in front of the jail, then as now on Washington street, for the execution, could easily be destroyed; nor was it at all probable that a rescue could be prevented. Myers was told of the rising storm, and going to the jail window with Dr. Buck, he addressed the crowd as follows:

"Brothers and Sisters:—I hope by the grace of God to be able to talk to you a little. I have to leave you all, but I feel I am prepared to go

on the way to my new home. I go to a better world than this. As regards the trial, a great deal of false evidence was given, but some of it was the same as the confession I made, which was all true. I forgive all the jury. Christ dreaded death, and so do I. I was raised in the back woods and never had a chance of learning much; never went to day-school or Sunday school. I had a Christian mother. I had some relations who died, and several of them joined the church of Christ as they were on their death beds. I hope I shall meet my relatives in a better world. I have been convinced for the last two years that my time was short, and I tried to receive religion, but did not get it until I came here. My religious experience I cannot exactly explain. I was taken with shaking as if I had the ague, and the heart and tongue wanted to praise God, even after I had gone to sleep. I believe I have received pardon from God, and I fully believe in Jesus Christ. I have been treated well by the sheriff, and he has done all he could for me. I have done all I could to restrain the prisoners. I had never any wish to escape from here, except through the influence of the law. I have always lived a wild life, and I warn others from living such a life. Your time may be short; also prepare to meet your Maker. I am glad Holder was commuted, because I am the only man who killed Calhoun. My chief regard has been for my wife and children, but they are well provided for."

This appeased the mob, but the sheriff, John R. Moore, kept the shed well guarded. Some show man, callous to the surroundings, plastered its walls with advertisements of his coming attraction, and brought down on himself the displeasure of the crowd.

Myers had asked that the execution take place after noon and before one o'clock, and

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that the church bells toll after his death. This was granted. Later in the morning he sent James Boone to still the crowd, and to tell them that it was his wish that the law take its course. But the excitement continued to grow, until at 12 o'clock the sheriff quietly told the doomed man his hour had come, and the death march began. Revs. Steadman and Corley accompanied the prisoner to the scaffold. Just before the drop, Myers again publicly professed his faith in Christ. At 12:20 the trap was sprung, the body shot down several feet and swung round once or twice, and the law was satisfied. Drs. Vandyke and Kellar made the official examination and pronounced him dead.

A few moments later, the crowd, getting beyond control, burst into the shed and the scene that followed, when they learned they were too

late, beggars description. Old residents say they hope they may never see the like again. The metropolitan papers, in describing it, say "it was one of the most revolting criminal scenes in America." Men, women and children comprised the crowd; relic hunters contended with the relatives of the deceased man; and his friends and foes vied with each other in their revilings.

The other condemned men had a fate nearly as horrible. Phillip Grass died in the penitentiary. Holder went insane, and for years lay in the state prison a raving maniac, finally dying there. Wm. Grass served out his 20 years, and came back to Shelby county, where, later, he also went insane, and died a pauper at the county poor farm.

FORTY YEARS' EXPERIENCE AS A MISSIONARY IN SHELBY COUNTY.

INCLUDING REMINISCENCES OF THE DRINK EVIL FIFTY YEARS AGO, LOCAL TROUBLES IN THE CIVIL WAR, TEMPERANCE REFORM CRUSADE, AND THE STRUGGLE TO ESTABLISH LITHIA SPRINGS CHAUTAUQUA.

A PERSONAL HISTORY by JASPER L. DOUTHIT.

CHAPTER VIII.

The publishers of this History have kindly requested me to prepare for its pages a sketch of my labors as a missionary in this county. As I was born here over 66 years ago, and for the past 40 years have been mostly engaged as a Unitarian missionary in this region, the sketch must necessarily be largely auto-biographical, my life and my mission work being inseparable. This will explain, and I hope somewhat excuse, so much reference to myself. It seems very little I have done—"By the grace of God I am what I am," and have been able to do any good thing. "I have learned from the Swedish sage that he who takes to himself the credit of good works which the Lord enables him to perform, is at heart a thief—he takes what does not belong to him." (I quote the words of Charles Gordon Ames, of the Church of the Disciples, Boston, the church of which James Freeman Clarke was pastor most of his life, from his recent discourse on "Fifty Years a Minister. A Personal Retrospect." Dr. Ames gave the charge at my ordination, Detroit, Mich., June 22, 1862, and is one of the noble saints and true friends through whom the good God has greatly blessed my life.) I have fallen far short of what I hoped for and what I might have done if I had been a wiser and a better man. I consent to tell this story in the hope that it may help others to be better and do more for God, Home, Country and Mankind.

WHERE I HAVE BEEN FOR SIXTY-SIX YEARS.

My life has been spent in and near Shelbyville, excepting: The 18 months I was with my parents in Texas, in 1843—44; part of a year at Wabash college, Crawfordsville, Indiana, in 1856; six months in Hillsboro, this state, in 1858, as superintendent of Public Schools; a year in Massachusetts (1858—9), in the employ of Fowler & Wells, Phrenologists and Publishers, at their branch office in Boston, and lecturing on Phrenology and kindred subjects in towns round about; three years at Divinity school, Meadville, Pennsylvania, 1864—7; and three months immediately after graduation, (1867), as pastor of the Unitarian Society in Princeton, Illinois. I resigned that charge in the face of the unanimous protest of the members, (three of whom were worthy brothers of the poet, Wm. Cullen Bryant), and also contrary to the wish of some dear friends like Robert Collyer. Indeed, it seemed a foolish move to most of my friends to give up a good salary and pleasant people, and come to this county, where I must serve without salary, and struggle in poverty with a wife and two children. But God and my wife and my sorely troubled mother knew why I felt this to be the loudest call on earth to me.

FAMILY AND FOREFATHERS.

I am the oldest of a family of five sons and two daughters—one son dying in infancy. My



REV. JASPER L. DOUTHIT.

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four brothers, Levi N., Francis M., George W., and Wm. F., and two sisters, Mrs. Margaret Elliott and Mrs. Nancy Thomas, live near me, and have been affectionate co-workers with me always. Brother George passed to heaven over twenty-five years ago, after a brief, but very brilliant and impressive career looking to the ministry, so that I cannot think of him as dead, but mightily alive and near me.

I was married to Miss Emily Lovell, at East Abington, (now Rockland), Mass., Nov. 2, 1857. To this woman, under God, I owe most of what I have been and what I have done of good for forty-three years; and our children, two sons, and two daughters, have been loving co-workers with us for the Better Day. Our youngest daughter came as a Christmas gift when the mother was busy preparing for the first Christmas tree ever I saw. It was for the Sunday school at Log Church, 4 miles east of Shelbyville, on Christmas Eve, A. D. 1871; and that child from the time she was old enough to be carried to church and Sunday school, a babe in her mother's arms, has never to this day missed weekly attendance at church and Sunday school with one exception; and then she was so sick the doctor said we must not take her, though she cried as if heart-broken to go; and for many years she has been a devoted Sunday school teacher. Our youngest son, Robert Collyer, is pastor of the Unitarian church, Petersham, Mass., one of the older congregations in New England; George L., our eldest son, supplies my pulpit occasionally, besides acting as business manager for *Our Best Words*, and for Post Office Mission and Lithia Springs interests. Our oldest daughter, Helen, (wife of Mr. Joseph W. Garis, a railroad employee), has always been a most faithful and

cheerful helper in all good work. They were all born and trained as children of the church.

After many years of preaching about the county to little flocks here and there, I have been pastor for twenty-five years of the First Congregational (Unitarian) church in Shelbyville and the Church of Liberal Christians now worshiping at Jordan Chapel (near Lithia Springs), and within 200 yards of the spot where I first saw the earth. By the chapel are the graves of my grandmother and grandfather Douthit, and my father and mother and hosts of kindred, at many of whose funerals I have been called to minister. In fact, there are few homes among older residents within a radius of six miles of my birth place where I have not gone on such errands. This chapel is at the head of Jordan Creek, named for my mother's father, who settled near that place over 70 years ago when the Indians were the only inhabitants of this region. My mother was born in a fort in Franklin county, Southern Illinois. The fort was built by her father, Francis Jordan, and his brother Thomas, to protect their families and other pioneer settlers from the Indians. (See Reynold's Pioneer History of Illinois, page 406.) My great-grandfather, Evan Douthit, came with his family from near Nashville, Tenn., about 1830, and built him a log cabin home five miles east of Jordan Chapel, on what is now Sam'l Duncan's farm. This was still standing, half up and half down, till 1896. What interests me about this cabin is the fact that the dear old grandsire and his little Welsh-Irish wife (my great-grandmother who died in Palestine, Texas, at the age of 115 years) were then (1830) accustomed to walk together on Sundays, five miles, through a pathless forest and high prairie grass, to attend religious meetings near where Jordan Chapel now stands, two miles south of Lithia Springs.

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SOME CHURCH STATISTICS, ETC., OF THE MISSION.

There have been built in this mission four church edifices in Shelby county, the largest being a substantial brick structure, costing \$6,000, and three of wood, costing respectively, \$800, \$1,500, and \$1,200, and one in Mattoon, costing \$10,000, besides a tabernacle for our summer meetings at Lithia, seating about 2,000 persons or more. As nearly as I can estimate, one thousand persons have been received into membership under my ministry in this vicinity, two hundred children christened, nearly one thousand funerals attended, and about four hundred marriage ceremonies performed. The church membership has been largely composed of young people and tenants that are now scattered over many states, leaving only a few dozen near enough to attend at Jordan Chapel and Shelbyville.

There have come from my congregations eight persons who are now ordained ministers of the gospel. Three of these are graduates at Meadville, and are now pastors of Unitarian congregations; and one is a woman of national reputation for her philanthropic and gospel temperance labors. At least six ministers in other denominations—some of whom are quite prominent for their ability—received their first quickening for the ministry with these congregations.

Meantime I have been engaged in anti-slavery, temperance, and other social reform and general educational work. For the last ten years I have superintended annual Chautauqua Assemblies and Summer Schools at Lithia Springs. In connection with editorial work on *Our Best Words* for twenty years past, myself and son, George L. Douthit, have published, besides various tracts and pamphlets, the follow-

ing books, most of which I have edited, namely: *Shelby Seminary Memorial. Illustrated. Cloth, 116 pages;* *Out of Darkness Into Light: The Journal of a Bereaved Mother, by Mrs. M. A. Deane, cloth, 400 pages;* and *The Life Story and Personal Reminiscences of Col. John Sobieski, cloth, 400 pages. Illustrated.*

HOW AND WHEN I BECAME UNI-TARIAN.

I cannot remember when I did not hold substantially to the Unitarian faith, but I did not take the name Unitarian till near the time of my ordination to the ministry, about thirty-eight years ago. I began to talk and preach Unitarian ideas some years before I knew there was a religious people of that name in existence.

My forefathers were Calvinists, my grandfather Douthit being a zealous Predestinarian ("Hardshell") Baptist preacher. As a boy, I craved to believe with and belong to that church, but I could not honestly—for my whole soul revolted at some of its doctrines—and my parents advised me against pretending to believe what I could not for my life really believe. Such pretense, my parents said, would be hypocrisy—the very thing that Jesus most severely condemned. And so I came to think it were much better for professed followers of Christ to be united for worship and work by agreeing to disagree, in all sincerity and kindness, rather than to "Make-Believe" or seem to say to the public that they accept doctrines which their reason and conscience reject. And after fifty years of taking evidence on this point, I am convinced that many young people are tempted precisely as I was; and alas! too many have yielded, and have been thus lead into a life-time

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of religious insincerity. (See published pamphlet, "The Creeds or Christ.")

When a mere lad I felt so much desire to become a Christian that I would gladly have walked a long journey to find a congregation that would have given me membership on my simple confession of a determined purpose to live a Christian life, leaving me free with the Bible to decide as to doctrinal points. I remember when I first expressed to my mother this desire, she exclaimed: "Why, my child, I thought all good people believed that way!" But I soon learned that all the churches around me insisted upon a great deal more of a confession as a condition of membership. Therefore, for a long time, I must walk alone; and I would have almost lost faith in all churches and all religion but for a mother's love and saintly example.

WITH THE METHODIST CHURCH AT SCHOOL.

I had been to school but about nine months when I was about eighteen years of age; and that was to subscription school, kept part of the time in a house with only the bare earth for a floor. When about 18, I became so determined to get an education that I left home against my father's will, and hired to work on the grading of the Illinois Central railroad, near where Pana now stands, in order to get money to pay my way at school. But I was persuaded to return home, and remained until Shelby Academy was opened, at which I was present the first day, March 20, 1854. This institution was under the auspices of the Methodist church.

When about 21 years old I made public confession of religion and was baptized, kneeling in the waters of the Okaw, at Shelbyville; Rev. Isaac Groves, then pastor of the First

Methodist church here, performing the ceremony. I worshipped and worked with that church for several years. Though never yielding formal assent to its articles of faith, I was treated as kindly as if I had been a bona fide member, and I have ever held that church in grateful regard as my foster mother in religion.

Among the most loyal and loved friends for over forty years, have been Principal Chas. W. Jerome and Robert M. Bell, associate teachers in that old Shelby Academy. And among my heartiest co-workers in this mission have been Methodist ministers. The pastor of the First M. E. church, Shelbyville, was about the first one in the country to welcome me to preach in his pulpit, soon after I was ordained by Unitarians, though about that same time the Cumberland Presbyterian church, of Windsor, Rev. W. W. M. Barber, pastor, was opened for me. The first pastor of a Shelbyville church to propose a pulpit exchange with me was the pastor of the Second M. E. church, Shelbyville, Rev. James M. West now of Bloomington, Ill. The late Rev. James L. Crane, General Grant's close friend and chaplain in the Civil war, father of Drs. Frank and Chas. Crane, was one of the first Methodists I ever heard speak. That was when I was at Shelby Seminary. He was the pastor of the First Methodist church in the early years of my ministry in Shelbyville, and treated me most brotherly. Through his influence I was chosen President of the Shelbyville Ministerial Union, (the first club of the kind organized here, I believe), of which the pastors of all Protestant congregations in the city, excepting perhaps one, were members. A few years since, and a while before he was promoted, the Methodist veteran and saint, Isaac Groves, at the age of 80 years, came from his home at Urbana, Ill., to visit me and preach in the pulpit of the "sin-

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gular sheep" he baptized over two score years ago. The Universalist saint, (now also octogenarian), Rev. Dr. Varnum Lincoln, of Andover, Mass., who helped to make me and a Yankee girl one, and who gave me a most fatherly greeting in Boston recently, could not have been more cordial to me and my congregation than was this dear old Methodist pastor. Surely, I have special reasons for thanking God for the Methodist church.

I became identified with Unitarians simply because they were the only people that would accord me full freedom to preach the Gospel as God gave me to see it, without dictation by Pope, Synod, or Conference, one man or a million men. But I used that liberty, in fact, for five years before my ordination. The year before the Civil war began I solicited funds and helped build a Meeting House, in the woods four miles east and south of Shelbyville, that we named "Liberty," which was free for religious and other public meetings. Here I tried to preach, and organize a Sunday school. (That house went up in flames during the war.) The burden of my first message was

"LIBERTY, UNION, CHARITY, TEMPERANCE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS."

These words have ever had a special charm to me since I first caught any of their meaning—though like all the great words, they yield a thousand times more meaning the longer the things they stand for are pondered, even as the real discovery of America has been extending since Columbus sighted a little of its shores. My favorite text was Paul's theme before Felix: "Righteousness, temperance and the judgment to come." I warned of the judgment to come against what to me were the twin evils: strong drink and African slavery.

The drink custom was terrible in my neighborhood, and very early the serpent began to crawl through our home. There was an old still house near by, and the candidate for office that was most lavish in treating voters to whisky was usually elected. I have seen kegs of liquor placed at the polling place all day, free as water for everybody, and at night most every one would be more or less drunk, including the judges and clerks of the election. It was the custom 50 years ago here on Christmas and New Year's, for neighbors to come together at one place and have what was called a whisky stew and spree. A big iron kettle or pot (used for making soap and washing clothes) that could hold eight or ten gallons, was filled with whisky and other stuff, and made hot and sweetened for men and women, and boys and girls to drink. This was the Christmas or New Year's treat. The decanter of "bitters" sat on the sideboard in many homes, and the preachers who were being entertained drank before and after the sermon. When a small boy, I attended a sort of bar (a grocery store kept by my father where sugar, coffee, etc., and whisky were sold, and felt honored in the doing, until very soon my eyes were opened to the horrors of it. A great hearted man whom I loved when he was sober, became a terror to his family and to everybody, and said he couldn't help it, and so in desperate remorse he resolved to kill himself with drink, and he did. I see him now as he came to our "grocery" (dramshop) one day with a sled drawn over the snow by a bob-tailed horse, saying that he had come for his last barrel of whisky. It was loaded on his sled and he got astride and started homeward saying: "This is my coffin." When he drank till he was so weak he could not help himself to it, the doctor was called and said he must have a little toddy

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(weakened whisky) to keep him alive. I sat by him and gave him the toddy in a teaspoon till he breathed his last. (I would have scruples about obeying such medical advice now.) I saw many others thus stung to death. I saw homes made miserable and destroyed. I was alarmed and would tend bar no more.

A VOW OF TOTAL ABSTINENCE.

I had never heard or read any lectures on total abstinence, but I was ambitious to study and be an intelligent, wise man, and I saw that whisky made me silly, and so at about 16 years of age I vowed total abstinence. I have kept that vow to this day, and see more good reasons for it the longer I live.

Thirty years ago I was rejected by Life Insurance companies as an unsafe risk. Though always frail of body and often suffering severely with nervous prostration, I enjoy better health today than in any period of my life, and am a happier man as the years roll on. This increased health and happiness I believe to be largely the result of total abstinence from liquor and narcotics; and also of striving to be temperate in all things, though sadly failing in this effort sometimes. Alas! the graveyards round me are populous with victims of drink, most of whom were younger than I, and of much stronger constitution; and many of them among the noblest and best but for the demon that ruined them in body, mind and soul. Why should I not vow relentless hostility to this monstrous robber and murderer?

COLLECTING TAXES—SLAVERY— “THE ITCH FOR DISPUTATION.”

I had an opportunity to know much of the habits of people in this county. My father kept

the Postoffice (called Locust Grove) at our home, five miles east of Shelbyville, over 50 years ago, when the mail was carried on a stage coach from Terre Haute through Charleston, Shelbyville, etc., to Springfield. The Locust Grove precinct election was then held for years at our house. My father for much of his life held some office of trust. He was for several years sheriff and ex-officio collector of this county. He collected all the taxes in the county, traveling from township to township to do it. The revenue must be paid in gold and silver, and father hauled it up to Springfield in a two-horse covered wagon. I served part of the time as his deputy, or assistant, and thus became acquainted with many people. The county officers were generous, sociable, pleasant men, and the custom of treating to drinks caused most of them to fall victims to the habit. Thus many men of the most popular qualities were ruined, among them some of my nearest and dearest. For these reasons my first mission work was in fighting this evil. In these battles I have received the severest wounds of my life. I have been cursed ad infinitum, libeled and blackmailed again and again, and my salary reduced one-half; my life and property has been often in peril.

My first experience with African slavery was when, ten years of age, I saw its workings in Texas. I worked with the slaves in the cotton fields and cotton gins, and came to love the negroes—they were so very kind to me. They would gather in their cabins on Sunday and of nights, to hear me read the Bible to them. Then seemed to come to me my first call to preach. I saw slaves for slightest offenses cruelly beaten by drunken overseers, till blood ran down their bodies to their heels. I took their part and longed to live to help them toward the North Star. So far as I know, I was the first person in this coun-

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ty to declare and contend publicly for the abolition of African slavery, though I had heard my mother and others often speak of slavery as a great wrong.

The preachers I heard forty and fifty years ago had what some one has called "an itch for disputation" and heresy hunting, so that congregations were split all to pieces over such questions as whether God made the devil or the devil made himself. And there was bitter controversy and turning each other out of church on such questions as communion and baptism, regardless of how pure the character of the heretic might be. I thought such religious "fussing" was all wrong; and so the first sermon I tried to preach was against what was then called "Pulpit Fighting," which was not a fight against sin or moral heresies, but against some supposed doctrinal unsoundness. But I dare say I sometimes made the mistake of showing some of the same spirit which I severely condemned: for I have never found it difficult to show, on a given occasion, the requisite amount of indignation against what I believed to be wrong; but to "speak the truth in love," to be sweet amidst "an evil and perverse generation"—ah! that is not so easy, sometimes.

Just before and during the Civil war I had public controversies with "Hardshell" Baptists and "Christian" (Disciples of Christ) preachers on the question of slavery and total abstinence. Some of those preachers in this vicinity argued from the Bible for slavery and wine drinking. My contentions have mostly been on clearly moral issues. Nearly all of my preaching, probably nineteen-twentieths of it, has been practical, to make people better in character and life, rather than to dispute on doctrinal or speculative points. I have never published but three controversial discourses, to-wit: "The Creeds or

Christ;" A "Plea for Religious Honesty" and "Bishop Edwards' Mistakes," being a reply to some charges made against Unitarians by Bishop David Edwards of the United Brethren church. At the suggestion of Robert Collyer, members of Unity church, Chicago, helped to print this last named, and so gave it a large circulation in this region. In the year Garfield was elected president, I had a discussion with Rev. Dr. Isaac Errett, of Cincinnati, Ohio. The discussion began by Dr. Errett criticising in his paper (*The Christian Standard*), a discourse of mine, published first in *Manford's Magazine*, Chicago, on "Alexander Campbell's Christian System." Dr. Errett kindly allowed me to reply through the columns of his paper, and the controversy continued for several issues. Dr. Errett was an intimate friend of Garfield, and ministered at the President's funeral.

THE KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN CIRCLE—PARTISAN PREJUDICE.

Early in life I learned to hate ultra partisanship and prejudice, especially after I was fooled into giving my first ballot for a pro-slavery party when I thought I was voting against slavery. About the first article I ever prepared for publication on a political subject was a plea for "Fair Play in Politics"; but no newspaper then published in these parts would print it, because it was not only a plea for free speech but for freedom to all men. The article ultimately appeared in the *Shelby County Freeman*, mentioned in another place.

In the spring of 1863, I reported a secret session of the Knights of the Golden Circle for the papers. The real object of that order was to organize to resist the draft, and secretly help

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the rebellion. But it appeared before the public in the guise of "Peace Democracy." Thus it misled many well meaning people and gave a chance for bushwhackers and other emissaries of the confederacy to come into Southern Illinois. One of these came from Missouri into my district. He called himself a preacher. He held meetings at "Liberty Meeting House." This house was built for the double purpose of school and church, in fact all sorts of meetings—for it was the only house where public meetings could be held in that district; and I had stipulated when soliciting funds to build it, that it should be always open to the community, sacred to free speech. Well, a Knights of the Golden Circle lodge was organized there by the Missouri bushwhacker, and a score or more of my neighbors joined it. Besides secret sessions, the lodge held open meetings, to which everybody was welcome. In these meetings peace and union were talked. I went to one of the meetings and asked permission to speak for peace and union. It was left to a vote, and there were enough of the bushwhacker and his friends to say that no abolitionist should speak. The bushwhacker said: "If an abolitionist wants free speech, let him go to the woods and bellow to his heart's content." But a younger brother of mine (George W.) who was not known to the bushwhacker and was so very quiet and sleepy-looking that night that he was scarcely noticed in the great, noisy crowd, was not put out. Then was held the secret session in which the so-called preacher and bushwhacker made a rousing speech. He denounced Judge Anthony Thornton and other prominent Douglass (Union) Democrats. He said: "Had it not been for such weak-kneed cowardly traitors we should have had the tyrant Lincoln dethroned long ago, yea, verily, and beheaded. (Applause.) * * * I tell you we

must prepare to fight. Clean out your old guns and get ready. If you have no gun, go up north and press one, and while you are there press a horse and ammunition. If we can't fight on a large scale, we can bushwhack it. If you don't know how, I can teach you. I have had some experience in bushwhacking myself."

My younger brother had an excellent memory, and reported that speech word for word. I tried in vain to get any of the local papers to publish that report. They refused, not because its correctness was questioned, and some of the editors expressed to me in confidence their abhorrence of the bushwhacker's speech; but the press of this county then was all of one party and intensely partisan, so that the editors said to me it would never do to publish such a report. It would create discord in the party and make votes for the "black Republicans." I then sent the report to the St. Louis Democrat, the Republican daily most widely read in this part of Illinois then. That paper made the most of it. It printed it on the first page, under loud head-lines that startled the whole country. The excitement was intense. It was as if a bombshell had burst, and somebody must surely get hurt or leave for other parts in a hurry. I felt I ought not to go. But I was informed by a vigilance committee that I must go, either vertically or horizontally, though they didn't use those words. They talked plain Anglo-Saxon. They said I should be hung or have a coat of tar and feathers and ride out on a rail, for the sake of peace. However, it was decided that I might stay if I would confess that I had made false report about the Knights of the Golden Circle, and would stop making reports to the papers; otherwise it was decreed that I must be treated as a spy. But I was so stubborn that no doubt you would have been spared these reminiscences but for my

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father and mother and a large number of kindred who, though grieved at my outspokenness, strongly resented any violent treatment of me. As for the bushwhacker and his deluded victims, it seemed that the only way they could remain in the locality and save themselves from arrest by government officials was to deny my report and publish a libel on me. So the bushwhacker prepared a manifesto for the signature of others, stating that he had never uttered the words reported of him in the daily papers, and that the secret conference, held at Liberty Meeting House, was in the interest of peace and harmony among neighbors, and that Jasper Douithit was a notorious, blood-thirsty Abolitionist, a stirrer up of strife among otherwise peaceable neighbors. Then, to induce others to sign that manifesto, the bushwhacker told them he knew that the "black-hearted Abe Lincoln" had sent me a lot of government arms and ammunition which I had secreted in my house on the prairie, eight miles from Shelbyville, and that I had conceived a bloody scheme by the aid of some blue coats at home on furlough. The scheme was to set on fire all the houses of peaceable Democrats in that country, and shoot down all the inmates—men, women and children. So the bushwhacker actually induced nine citizens to sign their names to his manifesto, and it was published in the party papers. Some of them signed it or rather consented to let the bushwhacker use their names, through ignorance of what the article contained, and others because they were made to believe it was the only way to save themselves from arrest, and perhaps from being shot. (I have before me as I write copies of all the published articles above referred to.) I learned years afterwards that all concerned in that Knights of the Golden Circle meeting held a council over my report. They all agreed that

I had "got it mighty korect." But the question was, how I got it. Some suspected a traitor in camp, but most of them thought that after they had voted me "down and out" that night, I had climbed through the house roof and witnessed the whole proceedings through the scuttle hole in the loft. They never suspected my young, sleepy-looking brother. The secrets of that drama were not revealed till years after. I have publicly told my story of it but once before, and that not long ago. One of the nine who signed the libel was converted at a Methodist revival a dozen years after the war. The next morning he mounted a horse and rode in haste five miles to my cabin home in the woods to confess his fault and asked my forgiveness. All but two of that nine have passed to the great beyond. Most of them abundantly atoned for that wrong which they were lead unwittingly to do me. Some of them became earnest members of my congregations, and I ministered at the funeral of several of them.

Here let me say, once for all, that in relating such cases of foul play and rash judgment, my sole purpose is to arouse a hatred of the ignorance and prejudice that make such wrongs possible. I only wish to serve and bless those who may have ever in any way misjudged or wronged me. Standing over their graves I have none but tender recollections with sincere regrets that I could not or did not help them more. Life is too short for holding grudges. I am happy in having no ill will toward any human being.

TAKING THE ENROLLMENT.

A short time after that libel had been widely circulated I was appointed to take the enrollment for the draft in this county, a perilous task

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of course. Bloody riots in resisting the enrollment were of frequent occurrence in Southern Illinois and Indiana. Some enrolling officers had been shot down. All the people seemed to be walking on the thin crust of a volcano that was ready to burst at any hour. I then lived in a small cabin eight miles southeast of Shelbyville. The Knights of the Golden Circle were drilling in sight of my home on the prairie every day, to resist the "tyrant Lincoln," as they called him. I could talk and reason with some of my neighbors; but many were glum and mum, and would give me no chance to talk with them. Some had vowed they would shoot the first man who came around to take their names for the draft. I was begged by some friends not to attempt it. But others said I was the only one there to do it and it must be done, and they advised me to go thoroughly armed. I was offered a company of soldiers to assist me. But I said, "No, I will have no weapons and no soldiers." I took the precaution to disguise myself and ride a different horse every day, and go only to those I thought I could trust and get names of the others from the trusty ones. This worked very well, except in a few instances I made the mistake of revealing myself to foes instead of friends. Some had read that bushwhacker's libel in their party papers and they believed their papers then more than they did their Bibles. It was just such ignorance and partisanship that made the Civil war possible.

The first day, at one house where I went, the man grasped his old shot gun and said: "Now go home or you will be shot!" I took from my pocket a little pen knife and replied: "This is all the weapon I have. I don't want to harm a hair of your head. But I am not going home now. This work must be done. If you want to shoot me, just bang away. There are

thousands more to take my place." The fellow laid his gun down and said: "Jasper, I don't want to shoot you; your mother is such a good woman; but you will be shot, sure, if you keep on." I was then warned to stop, by Knights of the Golden Circle committees, and a dozen shots were fired into the open door of my house at night to give emphasis to the warning. But the enrollment was completed without bloodshed. Years after, men came to me to confess and apologize and to thank me for doing the work in disguise; for they said they had determined to kill me if they saw me at it.

It was hard for me to realize that such kindly disposed people as I had always known those neighbors to be, could be led to think of such murderous acts. But if war teaches what a man may be at his worst, it also teaches what he can be at his best. The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table once apostrophized war as a diviner teacher than peace, saying—
"As the wild tempest wakes the slumbering sea,
Thou only teachest all that man can be."

Many are the memories of encouraging words that were whispered or spoken aloud in hours of trial. About that time I preached a sermon on "The True Path to Peace" by a vigorous prosecution of the inevitable war and by freedom to the slaves. It was resolved by several who were opposed to my views that I should be silenced and sent out of the world with dispatch if I persisted in expressing such sentiments, and praying for the President of the United States. Accordingly, one bright Sunday morning at the hour I had appointed for services, a large crowd gathered in and around the little log school house (Old Salem). They were armed with shot guns, rifles, revolvers, bowie knives and heavy canes. They looked sour and surly. The congregation gathered and filled the house,

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If any of my friends were armed I did not know it. Scarcely a word was spoken by any one. The time came to begin service. A deathly silence reigned as I took my seat in the pulpit. Everybody seemed to be asking himself, "What next?" Just then a quiet, conservative man whom I had never known to take any active part in any meetings, and whom I did not know as being in sympathy with me, walked gently up the aisle and, drawing near, whispered in my ear: "Douthit, go on, and preach and pray as you believe is right. There is plenty of us to stand by you." I was determined to do that anyhow, and did clear my conscience very well that day. Nevertheless, I have always regarded that action of so modest and quiet a man as a very special providence.

And that was only one among many trying ordeals in which most humble men and women came to the front with an inspiration of wonderful heroism that I should never have thought them capable of.

THE UNITARIAN POSITION AND NAME

I will now turn to the more distinctly Unitarian phase of my mission work. And in the first place, as there is a very general misunderstanding about Unitarians, I beg to state, clearly as I can, precisely the Unitarian position.

Unitarians do not stand for a sect, if by sect is meant a body of believers who make assent to certain tenets a condition of church fellowship and co-operation. The Unitarian denomination is not a sect except in its opposition to all sectarianism in religion. Dr. William Ellery Channing was among the first of distinguished Americans to take the name Unitarian. He then declared (A. D. 1828,) that though he cheerfully took that name for good and honest

reasons, yet, said he: "I wish to regard myself as belonging, not to a sect, but to the community of free minds, of lovers of the truth, of followers of Christ, both on earth and in heaven." This is the position of the Unitarian denomination to-day. It is a body of free and independent Christian believers who claim no authority to dictate a creed or interpret Scripture for others. Unitarians welcome differences held honestly in the right spirit.

Unitarian churches are congregational in their form of government; that is, each church is independent and self-governed; it is a democracy or republic within itself, each member and both sexes having equal rights and privileges in choosing a pastor, electing officers, adopting a covenant of faith, etc. (I say "covenant," for we covenant to walk together in brotherly love rather than profess to think alike in creed.) All of these churches are not named Unitarian; and when they meet in conference it is not for dictation, but mutual counsel and inspiration and co-operation in good works.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN UNITARIAN AND TRINITARIAN CONGREGATIONALISTS.

However, to avoid misunderstanding by many people, it should be stated that all Congregational churches are not Unitarian. There are Trinitarian Congregational churches. These churches were formed of people who, when Dr. Channing and his associates took the Unitarian position, withdrew from their fellowship, insisting upon the old Calvinistic creeds of Predestination, three persons in the Godhead, etc. These are known as Trinitarian or orthodox Congregationalists, and these churches, unlike the Unitarians, do dictate in their conferences and in-

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sist upon a Trinitarian creed. But Unitarians never did in their history exclude by creed-tests or church rules Trinitarians or any other sincere disciples of Christ. There is not a case in all history of Unitarians excluding or persecuting others for opinions' sake. This was the marked difference between Unitarian and Trinitarian Congregationalists, although now with many people the difference is only in name. Now the most radical Unitarians of Dr. Channing's day would find welcome in nearly all Trinitarian Congregational churches.

For the reason that Unitarians were so jealous of their independence and freedom, and so opposed to creed-tests, many of the churches stood aloof from each other and were slow to come together and organize in National Conference with a common standard of fellowship and working basis; but they finally did unite as will be seen in the following:

BANNER OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE,

The following Declaration was unanimously and enthusiastically adopted by the National Conference of Unitarian and other Christian churches at Saratoga, N. Y., in 1894:

"These churches accept the religion of Jesus, holding, in accordance with His teaching, that practical religion is summed up in love to God and love to man."

While it is a fact that most members of Unitarian churches "are distinguished," as Dr. Channing said, "by believing that there is one God, even the Father, and that Jesus Christ is not this one God, but His dependent and obedient son," yet nevertheless all members are free to receive or reject this belief; they are welcome to believe (if they must to be honest) that Jesus

was the identical Jehovah, and that there are three persons in the Godhead, or any other doctrine. Unitarians will have no contention or division on these points. They respect honest convictions; they stand for the utmost tolerance so long as the life is right; they stand for a church with the door wide as the door to the kingdom of heaven; for full freedom of thought to all honest seekers after God's truth and for cheerful co-operation in works of righteousness with all good people, everywhere. "In every nation he that feareth God and worketh righteousness is accepted with Him;" (Acts. x:35), and shall be with us.

But as has been truly said: "We Unitarians are not so eager to make people call themselves by our name as we are to impart something of the spirit—this Holy Spirit of all truth. We know nothing of creed-tests or name-tests. Whoever loves and lives our ideals of reason, fellowship and service better than we, is our teacher, whatever church or age he belongs to."

It was because, as I have said, that Unitarians were the only religious body I found on earth that would welcome me to such freedom and universal fellowship, that I received ordination at their hands; and upon that basis I have been laboring as a missionary nearly forty years.

OBJECT OF "THE AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION."

For most of this time I have labored under the auspices of the American Unitarian Association, Boston, Mass. This Association was founded in 1825. Dr. Gannett, (Dr. Channing's colleague), who was the first secretary of the

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Association, thus describes the motive of its founders:

"The American Unitarian Association had its origin not in a sectarian purpose, but in a desire to promote the increase of religion in the land. . . . The name which was adopted has a sectarian sound. But it was chosen to avoid equivocation on the one hand, and misapprehension on the other."

The object of this Association as declared in its By-Laws, Art. 1, is "to diffuse the knowledge and promote the interests of pure Christianity." That is just what I have been trying to do all these years.

While the name Christian is dearer to us than Unitarian, yet, being only one class among so many classes of Christians, we dare not assume a monopoly of that name; we do not claim to be Christian par excellence. But in order to show our colors and stand by them, we must have a name—it is the only way to do honest business; and we take the name Unitarian because in the course of history it has come to signify, more than any other word, our great principles of Unity and our purpose and aim, namely: To unite with all people who will unite with us.

"To build the Universal Church,
Lofty as is the love of God,
And ample as the wants of man."
—Longfellow.

"UNITARIAN" STUMBLING-BLOCKS.

However, it should be said that Unitarians have no patent right on the name. Individuals and societies may appropriate and use, or rather misuse the name in a way to greatly prejudice good people against the principles and purposes of the Unitarian body proper. Persons may

call themselves Unitarian or "Liberals" who are merely indifferent about religion—perhaps never identifying themselves with any church, but tramp around from one church to another or stay away from public worship to play poker, visit or entertain visitors or do anything else they please, instead of attending to religious duties. I must say, that such persons have been greater stumbling-blocks in my mission work than all other sinners combined; and the more respectable and influential such "Unitarians" are, the worse their influence for building up a church and promoting the cause of pure Christianity. If such persons were the only dependence, there could be no Unitarian church anywhere; nor any other sort of church for that matter. The true church must have members who are willing to be martyrs for it against all the world, the flesh and the devil.

One of the most mortifying experiences of my life was when I went to a new railroad town of several thousand inhabitants and inquired of the Postmaster if he knew any Unitarians living there. "I know only one man who calls himself Unitarian," was the reply; and when I asked where I should find that one, I was told he kept a saloon. On further inquiry in that same town I found another man—a leading business man—who claimed to be a Unitarian or "Liberal," and he never went to church, he said, except to hear the greatest preachers in the land. He said he could learn more to stay at home and read than he could to listen to the ordinary preacher. The idea seems never to have entered his brain that he should go to church for the example of it, and the good it might do others, and that the best part of church-going is not in learning some "new thing" but in the habit of associating with our fellows in a way to quicken and strengthen each

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other in what we already know to be true and good. As a rule, with very rare exceptions, the man or the woman who gets in the habit of staying away from regular worship with his fellows grows worse himself and of course sets a dangerous example to others. So in the case of the business man referred to, I met him by chance thirty years after, and was startled to find him a miserable wreck of his former self—a degenerate son of noble Puritan stock. I know whole communities that have been made worse by a similar misuse of freedom.

"There are two freedoms—the false, where a man is free to do what he likes; the true, where a man is free to do what he ought," says Charles Kingsley. The last is the only freedom to which Unitarians or liberal Christians are called.

REPRESENTATIVE UNITARIANS.

Unitarians, like any other class of believers, can only be fairly judged by their united declaration of faith, and also by their truly representative and faithful men and women. These include many of the highest and best in the world's intelligence and action, such as several of the Fathers of our Republic, like Franklin, Madison and the Adamses; and also such educators as Horace Mann, the founder of our common school system; John Pounds, founder of Ragged Schools; Noah Worcester, founder of Peace Societies; such scientists as Darwin and Agassiz; such poets as Longfellow, Lowell, Bryant and Holmes; such historians as Prescott, Bancroft, Sparks and Parkman; such statesmen as Webster, Sumner, Morrill and Hoar; such philanthropists as Florence Nightingale, Dorothy Dix and Clara Barton; such authors, sages and saints as the Channings; as Emerson, Bel-

lows, James Freeman Clarke, Robert Collyer and Edward Everett Hale; such writers as Louisa May Alcott, author of "Little Women"; and such hymn writers as Julia Ward Howe, author of "Battle Hymn of the Republic," Sarah Flower Adams, author of "Nearer My God to Thee," and Sir John Bowring, author of "In the Cross of Christ I Glory."

Such characters are the best representatives of the Unitarian faith, name and movement.

THE BEGINNING AT LOG CHURCH.

After graduating at Meadville, the beginning of my missionary work under the name Unitarian, was at old Log Church, on the road a mile south of Middlesworth station and about a half mile from Jordan Chapel. Log Church was built by the Baptists. (Predestinarian) nearly 60 years ago, on a spot close to where Willis Manning now lives, three miles east of Shelbyville, and when the survey of the railway (then called the Indianapolis and St. Louis line) was made, it ran against this meeting house. So the house was moved to the place above mentioned. It was built of great hewn logs, having enough timber in it, if sawed, for two or three houses of its size, (25 feet square.) After being removed, it was "weather-boarded," so that the logs could not be seen except on the inside. It became unfit for public meetings a dozen years ago, and is now serving as a stable on Mr. Jesse Barker's farm. By an unexpected turn, this Log Church came into hands favorable to my mission, (one of the trustees being a Catholic), though the remnant of Baptists were still allowed to use it. Here my wife and I did our mission work for the years 1867-8-9.

One Sunday morning—or rather afternoon

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—after two of the preachers had preached an hour and a half or two hours each, and had denounced Sunday schools, and new-fangled college preachers (meaning me, largely), I arose, and announced a meeting the next Sunday for the organization of a Sunday school. The novel announcement created a sensation; and there was a crowd on hand the next Sunday, mostly children of Irish laborers working on the railroad, (now "Big Four"). We had a crowded Sunday school. Then my wife started a subscription school, and had a houseful, the greater number being Irish Catholic children. I held meetings every night for several weeks. The old house was crammed and jammed and rumbling over with people. But it could stand the pressure.

The crowd that gathered at the Sunday school hour did not all come from religious motives. Sometimes a few of them came to settle quarrels that had begun at a dance or at the race. Once, in Sunday school, while I was expounding the Beatitudes, a rough man who was fired with drink, rose, and said, "That's a — lie." Then he said he had come there to whip the abolition preacher and he was going to do it right away, and started toward me. But several stout Irish and American boys clinched him, held him fast and carried him to his horse, put him astride, and on his promise of good behavior he was allowed to go his way. Then we called all the scared and scattered crowd back to the church and "sang with the spirit and understanding" the temperance song, one of a few we knew how to sing:

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging."

My wife and I, with our two older children, were then living in a little shanty about ten feet by twelve, which was afterward used as a hen house. We tried to live on what she earned by

teaching and by my cultivating a garden and 20 acres of land. The whole community, except the Catholics, were "dead set" against paying a preacher anything. They had always been taught by Baptist ("Hardshell") preachers that it was wrong to pay for preaching, and all the more so if the preacher was "dedicated" at a theological school, and a temperance "fanatic" who tried to interfere with divine decrees by teaching little children religion. A foreigner, however, who became a regular attendant at my meetings, came to me one day, and said: "I do not see how you live without any pay for your preaching. Come down to my house, and I will give you a little sweetening to help along." He gave me a big jug of sorghum molasses. That was my first year's salary as a preacher in this mission. The next year I received \$5 from the people to whom I preached. Then an old hermit who hailed from Nova Scotia and who was inclined to scoff at religion said: "I find that since these meetings begun my chickens are not stolen so much, and life and limb are safer. I for one am willing to chip in to help keep the thing a-going." And so he headed a subscription with \$10 and went with it to Shelbyville and got some more subscribed. Thus my third year's salary was increased to about \$50, although my wife made much more even then raising chickens and turkeys, than I did preaching.

In the first year (1868) of my work at Log Church, I began to preach in Mattoon. At first the Methodist and Cumberland Presbyterian churches were kindly opened for me; and then the public halls. Ralph Waldo Emerson, the Concord sage, gave me a labor of love in Union Hall, that city, on Sunday, Dec. 15, 1868, and on the following Sunday, Dec. 22.—Forefathers' Day—Unity

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Church of Liberal Christians, Mattoon, was organized.

During that period of work at Log Church I also preached at the school houses round about, tried to cultivate a little farm of 20 acres with fruit and grains, and edited a department in the Shelbyville Union, called "The Preaching Corner." This was, of course, purely a labor of love, but it required the best part of two days of each week for preparing copy, reading proof and going, on foot or horseback, to and from Shelbyville.

WITH THE LOCAL PRESS, ETC.

By the way, I may here say, I have been more or less a contributor to the local press most of the time for forty years, beginning as associate editor of the Shelby County Freeman, the first Free Soil or Republican paper started in this region of Illinois. Mr. E. F. Chittenden was editor-in-chief. That was in 1860-1. The Freeman did not live long. The Union was established in 1863 by John W. Johnson. He was a sort of Parson Brownlow editor, and a terror to "Copperheads," as the disloyal element was called, and his columns were always open for anything I wished to say. Several of my sermons on the war were published in the Union. In 1868 the late Capt. Park T. Martin, of Danville, Illinois, became editor and, in part, proprietor of the Union, and invited me to edit "The Preaching Corner" of three columns, more or less. This I did for the year 1870; and I continued to contribute often to the local press, mostly the Union, until I started Our Best Words in 1880. With a few rare and conspicuous exceptions, I have always been treated with marked courtesy and even generosity by the editorial fraternity. The exceptions were dur-

ing the Civil war and in my first radical crusade against the saloon in politics, and the "treating" custom of candidates for office. I will refer to this crusade later.

ORGANIZING UNITARIAN CONGREGATIONS.

While regarding the church as the divinely ordained organ of inspiration for all good works, yet the main object of my mission has not been to make proselytes and increase the membership of my congregation, so much as to quicken all souls into newness of life, urge men to be honest before God and man and to unite with all good people against all evil, and for more and better work for all mankind. And so, in the beginning of my mission, I had preached regularly at old Salem school house, near the late Jacob Sittler's home, for a long time, when one of my auditors, the late Curtis Hornbeck, Esq., (father of Rev. Marcus Hornbeck, now a prominent Methodist minister,) said to me one day: "Brother Douthit, you are the queerest preacher I ever knew. Here you have been preaching for two years and never once given any of us a chance to join church. If you had, myself and wife and all my family would have joined, but now it would be a little awkward for us to do so, as we have joined another church." I took Squire Hornbeck's words as a just rebuke of my neglect, and a few Sundays thereafter I gave an opportunity for people to join church, and as a result a Congregation of Liberal Christians with eight members was organized, Sunday, June 1, 1868, at above named school house. Elder John Ellis, named in another place, was present and assisted. This was the first Unitarian congregation in this region of Illinois. Its covenant is

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in nearly the same words as one of the first churches organized in New England. That was at Salem, Mass., in 1620, nearly 400 years ago, and that covenant was drawn up by the pastor, Rev. Francis Higginson, who was the ancestor of Col. T. W. Higginson, the Anti-Slavery Reformer and popular author of Boston.

Oak Grove Chapel was built jointly by Unitarians and Christians. This was dedicated Sept. 20, 1870, Rev. Robert Collyer, of Unity Church, Chicago, preaching the sermon. Over sixty persons became members of this congregation, and there was a flourishing union Sunday school in the Chapel for several years. But the members were mostly young and poor people and early moved to other parts, and several died. Finally, in 1891, the bulk of the remaining members united in building Jordan Chapel. This was dedicated Sunday, July 24, 1892, Rev. John H. Heywood of Louisville, Ky., preaching the sermon, and Rev. T. B. Forbush assisting. I am pleased to say that the Disciples of Christ, or "Christian" brethren, hold regular Sunday services and are doing good work now at Oak Grove Chapel; and their church door is wide enough to admit all sincere followers of Christ except in one particular; you cannot go in, unless you go under water.

ROBERT COLLYER'S "STORY OF THE PRAIRIE."

On July 20, 1873, Union Church at the Jacob Elliott graveyard, near Modoc, was dedicated, Robert Collyer preaching the sermon, assisted by Rev. Wm. J. Boone (Methodist) and others. It was during this visit that the black-smith, poet-preacher learned the story of John Oliver Reed's remarkable conversion. A while before this visit of Mr. Collyer, this man

had told his religious experience in a heart-searching speech to a wondering crowd at a basket meeting at Oak Grove Chapel. My wife and I took notes of that speech, and reported to Mr. Collyer when he came. He made a sermon story of it to his congregation in Chicago, and it was published in the daily papers. Then the American Unitarian Association, Boston, printed it in tract form, and it was reprinted in England and translated into Welsh. Thousands of copies have been and are still being circulated in America and in other countries. The tract is entitled: "A Story of the Prairie." It is true to facts in every particular. John was my cousin, and after his conversion he told how once, while I was taking the enrollment for the draft, he went to one of my Sunday services with a pistol in his pocket, resolved to shoot me if I preached what he had heard I was in the habit of preaching; but during the opening prayer he gave up the resolve; and was troubled in conscience till the great light and wonderful peace came to him.

AT THE OLD COURT HOUSE.

After many years in the rural districts, I made an appointment for a meeting in the court house at Shelbyville. To say I was disappointed in the first attempt is putting it mildly. Nobody came; only one man looked in at the door, and said: "Perhaps I'll come again after awhile;" and he went away. That fellow lived in the country and had come to Shelbyville on Saturday, and got so drunk he couldn't get home that night, and so was on hand to a small extent, that Sunday morning. He keeps sober now. The next appointment a few were present. Then an old singing teacher, a Presbyterian deacon, who had got acquainted with me in the coun-

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try work, came over from Marshall, Illinois, to be a sort of Sankey for me. Also an old Evangelist of "The Christian connection," Elder John Ellis, of Yellow Springs, Ohio, came to help us. The crowd increased, and we held meetings every night for eight weeks. The result of this "protracted" effort was a church of seventy-five members of the unchurched, and mostly of Shelbyville, with some of the county officers. Many had been hard drinkers. One had been a saloon keeper for forty years, and he was my faithful friend and helper till his death. This First Congregational Church, Shelbyville, Illinois, was organized that same year, (1875,) and a church edifice costing \$6,000 was built and paid for within a year. It was dedicated May 8, 1876, by Revs. James Freeman Clarke, Dr. W. G. Eliot, F. L. Hosmer, and the Jewish Rabbi, Sonnen-schein.

ELDER JOHN ELLIS AND JACOB SMITH.

In writing this story I should feel that I was ungrateful not to speak of the assistance of Elder John Ellis, of Yellow Springs, Ohio, a trustee and agent of Antioch College, founded by Horace Mann. Elder Ellis was a liberal Evangelist of the "Christian" order. He became interested in my work in the year 1868, and from that time to the close of the first protracted meeting in the old Court House, he was with me frequently. He helped in the gathering of congregations at Oak Grove, Mode, Sylvan, and other points in the county. He died a few years since at the age of 80. His wife, a physician and worthy relative of General W. T. Sherman, is still living, and has published her husband's auto-biography, in which he speaks only too kindly of me and my labors. Elder Ellis was

a remarkable man in some respects—a melodious singer and a very persuasive preacher in his prime, and the author of some sweet songs, notably "The White Pilgrim." I have seen audiences melted to tears at his singing that song. He was at one time editor of the Herald of Gospel Liberty, the oldest religious paper published in America. But he was mostly a pilgrim for 60 years, walking to his appointments, much of the time, with staff in hand, till he dropped suddenly in the harness.

During the years of my preaching at Oak Grove, Mode, Sylvan, Mt. Carmel and the old Court House, and in the early meetings at Lithia Springs, Jacob Smith, a popular singing school teacher, gave me valuable labors of love. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church at Marshall, Illinois; but was a most loyal friend, sang with his whole mind and soul and taught others to sing in my meetings from the time we first met, about 1869, till the Father called him home a while ago.

LOUDEST CALL TO PREACH—SALARY OR NO SALARY.

While most of my labors have been in this county of Shelby, and on the east side of the Okaw, yet in the early years I preached in the towns along the line of the Illinois Central Railroad, main trunk and branch, from Decatur and Champaign southward to Centralia, and also on the Indianapolis, Terre Haute, Alton and St. Louis line, from Charleston in Eastern Illinois, to Litchfield on the west. Then the managers of the above roads kindly gave me free passage as a missionary. (By the way, the president of the last named road in those years, was a member of Dr. Eliot's congregation, St. Louis, and the father of Rev. Robert Moore, who was ordained

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to the ministry at the same time and place with me, the sainted Dr. Hosmer laying a hand on each of our heads at once, while he made the ordaining prayer—the most impressive prayer I ever heard).

During the first few years of my charge in Shelbyville, at the urgent request of Dr. E. E. Hale and others, I tried to act as state missionary for Illinois, but there was not enough of me to spread over so much ground effectively; and in fact I felt a stronger call to preach to the people that would gather to hear me in the school houses and out door meetings in the vicinity of my birth place, though certainly money was never an element of strength to this call. By the money test, I had much stronger calls. I was offered a lucrative position under Lincoln's administration, and also under Grant's. I have had chances for four times more salary than ever I received from the people to whom I have ministered. But I have no regrets on that score; I am happy in the faith that what some may call my losses in time and money have not been wasted, but planted to grow and bear blessed fruit for my children's children, and my neighbors' children, when my body is dust.

This Home Mission has been to me a high calling of God. Necessity has been laid upon me. I have by invitation preached in many churches in the larger cities of the Nation, such as Chicago, Boston, Cleveland, Toledo, Columbus, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Detroit, Ann Arbor, Milwaukee, Alton, Jacksonville, St. Louis, Louisville, New Orleans and other cities. I have had governors of states, senators, presidents of universities, and many of the most distinguished and saintly persons for auditors; I have sometimes received \$50 for a single service. I have thus been honored and compensated much more highly than I deserved; and yet, I

can truly say, I have never anywhere nor at any time felt more honored before God than in preaching to Irish Catholics and other neighbors at Log Church; and never have felt so loud a call anywhere as at such places as the old whisky-haunted Court House in Shelbyville, though I might not get a peanut for it.

THE BLUE RIBBON CRUSADE.

The Blue Ribbon Crusade began with meetings in the court house, and then the meetings were moved to our new church. Every member of my congregation took the pledge of total abstinence. Then the meetings were moved to the Christian church, the largest audience room in town; and for forty-two nights in succession we held crowded meetings, until nearly every man and woman of Shelbyville and vicinity was wearing a blue ribbon. At the close of those meetings I was prostrate for six weeks. I lay at death's door, the doctor and friends thought.

A lady physician, Miss Dr. Petrie, from New York state, happened in town, and learning of my case, kindly came to see me as I lay helpless. She looked at me and said with solemn emphasis: "I have a message from heaven for you. You think you'll die, but you won't. But if you do not stop so much speaking night after night and other work you will become a miserable chronic wreck, and useless the rest of your life." That message deeply impressed me. I took the advice. I wish I knew the address today of that good messenger so that I might express to her my gratitude for the timely, wise warning that has helped me to keep my frail body in fair working condition for over twenty years longer than expected.

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PERILOUS WAR AGAINST THE TREATING CUSTOM.

When partly recovered from that long prostration, I began a war against the snares and stumbling blocks in the way of those who had taken the pledge and joined the church in an effort to reform. There was the open door of the licensed dram-shop, and the corrupt politics in the treating custom of partisan bosses and candidates for office. This custom was so deeply rooted and of such long standing that the majority of voters in both parties regarded it as a fixed institution. "Of course, no man can be elected to office in this county unless he sets up the drinks freely. You have got to do it or be beaten." That was the stereotyped reply of political bosses and candidates when I began to plead with them privately not to do so. Even some members of my own congregation would insist that they had to do it, and persisted in face of my solemn protest. Witnessing as I had for a lifetime the misery and ruin in the home and the corruption in public service caused by this mischievous custom, I deliberately and solemnly determined to stop it or die in the attempt, and I saw no more effective method than to publicly expose through Our Best Words every clearly-known case of a candidate setting up drinks in electioneering for office. I gave warning by stating publicly that I would publish the name of any and all candidates that treated voters to liquor. It was done. But it was the most painful ordeal of all my life. I had more mud and printers' ink thrown on me, got more curses and was threatened with more personal violence than in any other period of my life.

The saloon was in politics, and I had enlisted for the war to drive it out. Neither of the

political parties would tackle the giant, nor whisper a word against it in their platforms or party organs. Finally, by the help of Mrs. Ada H. Kepley, of Effingham county, (a member of my Shelbyville congregation) and about a dozen Free Methodists, we organized at the Court House, May 29, 1886, the Prohibition party. It was a most troubrous and costly business for me. My salary was cut down one-half. Some friends at home and abroad turned away. My printing press would probably have been burned, but for the fact that it was in a third story where fire could not consume it without putting a whole block in ashes. During this time my wife came near being killed while at work in her kitchen, by a woman crazed with drink, whom we had befriended, taken into church, and were trying to reform. Dirty papers, among which was the Police Gazette of New York City, published caricatures of this incident that created a sensation all over the country.

The battle went on till the snake was scotched if not killed; so that it has been since possible for a few men to be elected to office in Shelby county who do not bribe voters with liquor. Saloons were driven out of Shelbyville, and my printing office was moved into the room on the corner of the public square where one of the largest saloons had been kept. Our Best Words had become a weekly with the largest circulation of any paper in the county, and by a combination with the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association and similar movements, we came very near electing at one time an Anti-saloon ticket in the county. But my meddling in "the filthy pool of politics," (in an effort to purify it), had brought me into disfavor with some of the directors of our Missionary Board; they disapproved of my editing Our Best Words, though I doubt if ever they read it carefully. I was

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worn out and lying under the Juniper tree when a stranger came to me with a tempting price to buy my paper, and I sold out, but with the distinct understanding that Our Best Words would be continued in the same line of battle. I was deceived. It soon became an organ of the Populists, and after two years, that is in October, 1894, I bought back the name, Our Best Words, and began again to publish it.

UNITARIAN FRIENDS IN NEED—CHANCELLOR ELIOT'S ENCOURAGEMENT.

In the crusade against the saloon, I was warmly supported by Revs. J. T. Sunderland, Jenk. Ll. Jones, Wm. C. Gannett; also Dr. J. H. Allen, of Harvard University; and also by Dr. Wm. G. Eliot, Chancellor of Washington University, St. Louis, and some members of his congregation, the Church of the Messiah. The late Hon. George Partridge of that church visited me and gave lectures on his travels in the Holy Land; and he and Mrs. James Smith gave liberally to the Shelbyville church, the parsonage, and Our Best Words.

Chancellor Eliot was my wise and fatherly advisor and helper in this mission for nearly 25 years before he was translated. I remember once going to him, cast down and almost persuaded to abandon the mission—the support had so fallen off and my congregations grown small. "Are you sure?" inquired the Chancellor, "that you are pleading for the highest standard of public morals and purest conduct in private life?" I replied: "I have been trying my best to do that, and that seems what has caused people to turn away from me." "Very well, then," said the Chancellor, "stoick, and don't worry! Be of good courage! You shall be supported.

The Unitarian mission stands for better character and better quality of work—rather than for quantity, or a great following. Only do your part well, and leave results to God."

The dear old saint kept his promise to me, and I have since then been trying harder than ever to act according to his counsel, however heavy the cross, sometimes.

SAINTLY UNITARIAN FRIENDS AND CO-WORKERS.

I can never be grateful enough to the Giver of all Good for the hosts of noble, saintly men and women—some of them of world-wide fame—of the Unitarian household whose prayerful interest and friendship have been to me inspiration and strength in the most trying work of this mission. Most of them have resided too far away to ever visit here except in spirit. They are too numerous to mention. However, besides those referred to in other parts of this history, I make room to name Miss Dorothy Dix, the American lady philanthropist; Drs. A. A. Livermore and George L. Cary, Presidents of Meadville Theological School; Prof. Frederick Hindkoper and his wife; Drs. James Freeman Clarke, Henry W. Foote and Edward Everett Hale, and President Wm. H. Baldwin, of Boston, Mass.; Hon. John D. Long, Rev. John H. Heywood, Mr. A. G. Munn, Mr. H. S. Sears, Mrs. L. J. Tilton and Rev. Dr. A. P. Putnam. In a generous effort to strengthen my hands when they were almost ready to fall, Dr. Putnam gave that very kind sketch of my life published by Damrell & Upham, Old Corner Book Store, Boston, 1888. Though feeling painfully undeserving such kindly notice, yet I must confess that the showers of brotherly and sisterly sympathy which came to me from the

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appreciative readers of that story caused me to put on a new courage in a time of loneliness and sore trial.

And members of the Massachusetts Evangelical Society (Rev. James De Nomandie is secretary) have often caused me to thank God and take courage during the struggle to hold services at the Springs.

BROTHERLY KINDNESS OF LOCAL PASTORS.

I have spoken of the kindness and cordial co-operation of the Methodist brethren. And I rejoice in the remembrance of equally pleasant relations with most preachers of the various sects, and also Catholic priests, with whom I have come in contact in this mission; though a few preachers have been extremely shy of me and warned their flocks against my "dangerous doctrines," and one or two were noted for making imprecatory prayers against me, even as late as my crusade against the treating custom of candidates. About the first local pastor to subscribe and insist on paying for Our Best Words, was a Catholic priest, and some of my best friends and helpers have been members of that church. In the early years of my Anti-Slavery work, the United Brethren were most loyal allies, as the Free Methodist brethren have been in my later crusade against the liquor traffic and kindred evils. The Christian church, Shelbyville, was often granted me for religious services over 25 years ago, when many houses of worship in the county were closed against me. The late Elder Bushrod W. Henry was pastor of that congregation for several years. He performed the marriage ceremony for my parents, and always seemed glad to favor their son. In the most painful crisis of the local fight against the

liquor evil, Rev. B. F. Patt of the Baptist church, Shelbyville then, (later of Columbus, Ohio), and Rev. W. J. Frazer, the Presbyterian pastor, now of Brazil, Ind., stood by me most brotherly, bravely defending me publicly at the risk of offending influential members of their congregations. I do not wish to go to any heaven where such souls do not go. It would surprise some people if they should be told how much some of these pastors have helped to circulate Our Best Words.

WHAT OUR BEST WORDS IS HERE FOR.

Our Best Words is devoted to Temperance Reform, True Education and the spread of Pure and Practical Religion. It seeks to cultivate a spirit of Unity and Brotherhood among all sects, parties, classes and races.

In recent years it has given special attention to Lithia Springs Assembly and Chautauqua work. Our Best Words is purely a missionary paper, published and edited from the first as a labor of love and good will to everybody. It was born to speak the simple truth, and nothing but the truth, and to say the word most needed to be said, or die trying. For twenty years past in connection with Our Best Words, by the assistance of my family, we have carried on a Post Office mission and circulated thousands of tracts, etc., in an endeavor to Christianize liberals and liberalize Christians.

THE STRUGGLE AT LITHIA SPRINGS BEGINS.

Meantime, the battle had begun at Lithia Springs, two miles north of where the work began at Log Church, over thirty years ago.

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These springs were in an out-of-the-way place, no public road being nearer than a mile. They were in a glen surrounded by a dense, wild forest amidst rough hills and gorges. They were not protected by any enclosure, and the neighbors and their cattle for miles around came there for water. The water from earliest time was believed to be of rare medicinal value by those who drank it, though the springs were not widely known until within a dozen years.

The spot had been for a long time a den for the drinking and lawless element. I first tried to hold Sunday services there about fifteen years ago. Rev. J. T. Sunderland, then Western Unitarian Missionary Secretary, assisted me in one of the first meetings, and we had some old logs and the grass for seats. Then Dr. Benj. Mills, Presbyterian pastor at Shelbyville said: "Brother Douthit, I will come with my congregation and help you for one Sunday," and so they did; but Satan came also with a wagon load of fire water and set up his stand within a hundred yards of our pulpit. This was a big log close by the springs. The liquor sellers were arrested and convicted, and left the country to escape paying their fine.

A COURT TRIAL BESIDE THE SPRINGS.

I was permitted to somewhat control the grounds for three or four years before I owned the land. As showing the obstacles to be overcome because of prejudice and long standing custom, I will relate another case in point:

The only road to the springs ran counter-cornered across the land, (as it had run for aught I know since the Indians made the trail); and, strange to say, a majority of the township commissioners actually insisted that it must continue to go that way instead of on the section

line. They claimed that for the convenience of the public the road must run so as to include the springs; that the owner of the land had no right to enclose and control that water. It should be outside and free as air to all people and their cattle, at all times—certainly no temperance crank should be allowed to control it. This would interfere with "personal liberty." But the case went to the courts. Finally, the board of supervisors (the county legislature) appointed James Dazey, John Funk and Michael Workman, of its members, as a jury, (or court) before which the case should be tried. The court was assembled and seated on old logs about the springs. Many people were present. Hon. Geo. D. Chafee, my most faithful friend from the beginning, was attorney for the owner of the land, and Col. L. B. Stephenson, now of St. Louis, for the road commissioners. After eloquent pleading the verdict was that the springs might be enclosed and the road must be changed to the section line on the east.

TO REFORM THE FOURTH OF JULY.

Fourth of July celebrations had come to be largely occasions for drawing patronage to dram shops. I determined that our Nation's birthday should be kept in Shelby county a safe distance from those plague spots. Therefore, I invited all the lodges of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association, and everybody else to a free Fourth of July Picnic at Lithia Springs, and there was a mighty response. The papers reported ten thousand people present. The next Fouth of July I felt obliged to charge a gate fee of five cents. The third year the admission fee was 15 cents to pay incidental expenses of orators, etc., and there were about one thousand present. Chaplain (now Bishop) C. C. McCabe was the

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orator. He was pleased with my effort to reform the Fourth of July, and when I paid him what I had agreed to, he handed back to me a large part of the money, saying: "My dear fellow, I want to help you in this work." Then he suggested that I establish at the springs inter-partisan and inter-denominational Assemblies. I thanked him and said that was just what I wanted, and he promised to help all he could. He has well kept his promise. And the Good Father of all has sent many other such gracious friends.

HALLOWED GROUNDS.

Soon after that the land with the springs came into my possession—the first land I ever owned. My father had owned it from nearly the time the Indians left. It was the dearest spot on earth to me, because it was land over which my mother had held up tenderly my baby feet when she gathered sap from the maple trees around the springs, to make the yearly supply of sugar; and when I unexpectedly came to control the land I craved to live long enough to see it consecrated forever as Holy Ground—made too pure to ever again tolerate in any form the demon that had so distressed my mother, stung to death so many of my kindred and ruined so many homes round about.

And to effect this object I had good reason for believing I must begin then, or perhaps never. But the grounds were wild, uncultivated and unfenced. They were covered with woods and dense undergrowth, and the springs were bubbling up through marshy black mud—only one had an old whisky barrel for a curb. There was no shelter—no auditorium for meetings—nothing but the blue heavens above. I had no money, no income—not even a living salary.

But there were the springs, in a most picturesque and lovely spot. It is the testimony of all, including many of wide experience, that the place is an ideal one for camp-meetings and Chautauqua purposes, having beautiful scenery, being dry and well drained, healthful, free from mosquitoes and far away from the vicious influences of a city—a quiet, happy valley with water equal to any in the country for medicinal and health-giving qualities.

Nearly, if not quite, every plant, tree and flower that grows in the Mississippi valley may be found about these springs. And Prof. Leander S. Keyser, the popular author on ornithology, who spent a week on the grounds, says there are probably 200 varieties of birds here during the year; and during the ten years they have been specially protected and undisturbed on the grounds, so that they have increased in number and grown remarkably tame. So that I am sure it would make Mr. Angell, editor of *Our Dumb Animals*, happy to see and hear them.

TRIED AND TRUE ALLIES IN THE HEAT OF THE BATTLE.

In order to hold public meetings till I might see the grounds consecrated to holiest uses while I lived, I did contrary to the rule of my life; borrowed money, giving a mortgage on the land. The farmers and carpenters of the vicinity joined in and helped me build the great shed, called "the tabernacle," for an auditorium. But the springs must be walled, roads must be made, the underbrush cleared away, some cottages built, etc., etc. The gate receipts did not on the whole pay expenses, though all help and talent were promptly paid. The burden of debt at 7 per cent. grew, though some people in their

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ignorance said the Assemblies were a money-making scheme. I had tempting offers to sell, if I would not require a clause in the deed of transfer prohibiting liquor traffic on the ground. And three years ago I had an offer for the land on my own terms; but dear friends lead by John G. Woolley and Col. D. C. Smith, plead with me to hold on, and proffered me financial ease for another year. And so they did for the next year, till finally I felt it my duty positively to decline further aid in that way. I determined to square up all debts by selling everything if necessary. * * * But I am spared this necessity. Victory is nigh. And who have helped to this victory? Their number is greater than can be named here.

Among the many noble and widely known men and women who have been from first to last generous co-workers in the effort to establish this Chautauqua, are: Ex.-Gov. John P. St. John, Mrs. Clara C. Hoffman, Bishop C. C. McCabe, Capt. D. H. Harts, John G. Woolley, Dr. John S. Cook, Rev. O. W. Stewart, Hon. Hale Johnson, Mrs. Leonora M. Lake, Rev. W. J. Frazer, Col. D. C. Smith, Booker T. Washington, Rev. Sam P. Jones and Col. John Sobieski, the last named for the last nine successive years. But for these and such as these, this effort must have ceased six years ago. During the first years Elder W. H. Boles, Col. James Felter, Mrs. Helen M. Gougar, Mrs. S. E. V. Emery, Miss Henrietta G. Moore, Miss Lily Runals, and Mrs. Daisy H. Carlock, the last named of saintly memory, were self-sacrificing helpers. Among our list of benefactors in late efforts are Commander Ballington Booth, Mrs. Eliza T. Sunderland, Montaville Flowers, Mrs. Eva M. Smith, Rev. Dr. George M. Brown, Rev. W. W. Fenn, Ex-Congressman George E.

Adams, Mr. N. O. Nelson, Dr. C. Elwood Nash, Prof. Eugene Davenport, Prof. George E. Vincent, Rev. Dr. E. L. Eaton, Prof. M. S. Calvin, Col. George W. Bain, Prof. H. H. Barber, Revs. Albert Lazemby, Fred Hawley, Chas. E. St. John and F. C. Southworth; and a multitude more never to be forgotten for their kindly, helpful service. I should like to mention the names of more than a thousand at home and abroad, who, by neighborly sympathy and generous service, have helped to keep this Chautauqua alive. I can not name any without seeming to slight many. But I am proud to refer to the fifty or more persons of our general and local Advisory Board as representatives of hundreds of others equally deserving mention in this connection.

From the first effort, about ten years ago, to celebrate Independence Day at Lithia away from the saloon, we have had the support of Judges Thornton and Moulton, two of the oldest and most honored citizens of the state; and later years, of Judge Truman E. Ames. One or the other of these gentlemen has acted as Master of Ceremonies nearly every Fourth of July since the second year from the beginning, when Judge Thornton presided and Chaplain McCabe told his story of the Sunny Side of Life in Libby Prison.

Frances E. Willard has been a patron saint of this mission for nearly fifteen years. She seemed to have a special interest in Our Best Words and the mission work since the first and only time she visited Shelbyville, near the beginning of her wonderful career. It so happened at that visit that I was the only minister to be on the platform with her. She frequently thereafter cheered me with letters expressing hearty

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sympathy and God speed for Our Best Words and the Assemblies.

From the beginning of our meetings at Lithia Springs the pastors of the various churches (both Catholic and Protestant) of Shelbyville and vicinity have been constant, brotherly and prayerful co-workers with scarcely an exception, to the best of my recollection.

Besides the distinguished persons above named, the following speakers of world-wide fame have also addressed these Assemblies:

Mrs. Mary T. Lathrop, T. DeWitt Talmage, Hon. George R. Wendling, Mrs. Helen M. Barker, Henry Watterson, Senator Wm. E. Mason, Hon. Wm. J. Bryan, Hon. John Temple Graves, Bishop B. W. Arnett, Mrs. Maude Ballington Booth, Senator J. P. Dolliver and Congressman Jerry Simpson. Col. Sobieski, in his Life Reminiscences says: "Probably there is no Assembly in the West that in so short a period has had so much eminent talent."

LITHIA CHAUTAUQUA AS IT HAS GROWN TO BE.

And so at last, despite of many drawbacks and pecuniary losses, the success of this Chautauqua in gaining public favor and a reputation National in extent, and with a constant healthy growth toward the ideal aimed at, has been beyond my most sanguine expectations. Look at the facts, then and now!

Beginning with a dozen tents and a few hundred patrons for a week the first year, with a mountain of prejudice to overcome, the annual campers and patrons have steadily increased from year to year, till for the last two or three summers there has been an average of 150 tents, nearly 1000 campers, and 500 to 3000 people in daily attendance for 20 days. They have come

from near and far. They have come from a dozen different states. One of these last years, as has been said, "for the nineteen days there was an average of fifteen hundred people daily; and it is the uniform testimony of experienced observers that there were never before in this part of Illinois so large a number of intelligent, kindly disposed and well-bred men and women of all sects, all parties and classes, brought together for such a length of time, and with such harmony of spirit and purpose."

These assemblies have drawn good people of all sorts of ideas together, so that they have learned more of each other, and come to understand each other better. It is a common remark that these assemblies have killed more bigotry and prejudice than any other institution in the country. People of all churches and of no church, have worshiped together, talked and conferred together under these two mottoes:

"No North, no South, no East, no West, but one Grand Union and one Flag;" and,

"In the love of truth and in the spirit of Jesus Christ we unite for the worship of God and the service of man."

Here has been a parliament of religions; a convention for fair play to all; a peoples' university; a school for good citizenship and social purity; a school of health and good behavior; in short, a federation of men and women to cultivate the art of making happy homes and making the most and best of each other and of everything that the good God gives us.

HOPEFUL OUTLOOK.

Therefore, while I look over these forty years of missionary effort with a sorrowful sense of disappointment and failure in much that I

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had hoped for and have tried to be and do, yet, nevertheless, I do greatly rejoice that what I prayed and sacrificed most for has been in part realized, though at a place and in a way I never dreamed of in the beginning.

And now in the first year of this century, on the motion of great souls like Dr. Edward E. Hale, and by the generous response of noble friends, the plan is now, (Jan. 20, 1901), nearly consummated whereby 200 acres of Lithia Springs ground, and the liquor traffic prohibited on the premises, is to be given forever and devoted to this great Chautauqua work, if the people want it enough, and I am happy in believing

they do, to give the institution their united support in the future as they have done in the past.

But even if the crowds should henceforth turn away, the healing fountains at Lithia cease to flow, and the glad carols of birds be hushed forever, I shall ever be most profoundly thankful to God for the multitude of friendly hands that have been reached out to me; and thankful, too, for being permitted to live to see so many sober, happy people assembled on that loved spot where they have caught higher ideals that shall surely be more fully realized somewhere, sometime.



GEORGE D. CHAFEE.

A SKETCH OF THE BAR OF SHELBY COUNTY.

By HONORABLE GEORGE D. CHAFEE.

CHAPTER IX.

I have been requested, by the Wilder company, to furnish for their History of Shelby County, a sketch of the Shelby County Bar.

This is largely biography, as a matter of course. No perfect biography has ever yet been written, and I doubt if one ever will be written. The memorable life and adventures of Tristan Shandy, a fictitious character of Dean Swift, and Boswell's Life of Johnson, perhaps come nearer being perfect biographies than any that have ever been read. The difficulty in preparing a complete biography, lies in the impossibility of getting accurate facts, and absolute want of any record of the most interesting events, and the impossibility of telling truthfully, the most interesting things that occur in a man's life-time. Very few persons keep any memoranda of current events, and even if they did, the memoranda would be but the dry bones of the real body and beauty of the event, and are usually kept, if kept at all, to refresh the recollection of the person making the notes. The history of Shelby County, or any other County, cannot be given in such a manner as to crystallize the ten thousand most interesting events that have happened. The things that interest people most in their daily life, and of which they would afterwards take pleasure in being reminded, are ephemeral and transitory, and a week or a month after they happen, they are forgotten.

The acts for which a man deserves praise by

his friends, may be the very acts which his enemies would censure. Any act in this world to be adjudged upon, has more than one side, and the person himself is the only one who can understand the reasons and motives for the act. Human judgment is defective, and human passions are not good criterions by which to decide the actions of a man's life; yet, these are the only sources which the public have, to sit in judgment on the life and character of others. We see only occasional land-marks or head-lands, as we sail over Life's Ocean, and the intervening space, with all its rocks and shoals of toil, pleasure and sorrow, is lost to us. In the biography of the Savior of Mankind, we have His birth, His flight to Egypt, His appearance in the temple when twelve years of age, His temptation in the wilderness, His three years of teaching the disciples, and His tragic death. A perfect page, covering thirty-three years of the most remarkable life the world has known.

So the story of the members of the Shelby County Bar must necessarily be brief. Very little is known of them, compared with what each has done. Very much that each has performed, would be of no interest to any one; while much that each has performed might be of interest to those who come after them, to point a moral or adorn a tale. The work of every good lawyer is chiefly in his office, the business of his clients; the circumstances, their troubles and sorrows, their aims and hopes are all professional secrets. The public judge of what they hear, either correctly or incorrectly, from the result

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of the trials. The history of the county, so far as its Bar is concerned, includes many names of persons whose services have been, for some reason, so brief that little is known of them, and of course, little can be said. The fact that no extended account of such appearance is given in this compendium, in no way reflects upon the life and character of any one whose name is so briefly mentioned. It simply indicates that no facts have been gleaned upon which a more extended biography might be written.

HONORABLE WM. A. RICHARDSON

was once a lawyer of this city, but soon immigrated from here to Quincy, and afterwards, became United States Senator. President Buchanan made him governor of Nebraska in 1860.

DANIEL GREGORY

was a lawyer here from 1835 to 1852. When he was appointed receiver of the Land Office, he removed to Vandalia. He was brother to M. D. Gregory, who lived at Moulton at the time of his death, and also brother of Allan Gregory, who was credited with being the originator of the Chicago stock-yards. Perhaps the next oldest lawyer in Shelby County was

MORRIS R. CHEW,

who came here in about the year 1850. He was father of the Honorable Wm. Chew, and grandfather of Wm. H. Chew, both of whom will be mentioned hereafter. A man named

ED. EVEY

also practiced law here a year or two, and then removed to California. He has relatives living near Tower Hill. Another lawyer who lived here a short time, was

JOSEPH G. CANNON,

who afterwards moved to Douglas county, and has been a member of Congress in that District for the last 20 years.

WM. H. REED

also located here in 1860, and in conjunction with Wm. J. Henry, prepared a book, the first Illinois Digest, which for several years was the only digest of Illinois reports in use in the state. He died soon after the book was completed.

ANTHONY T. HALL,

a nephew of Judge Thornton, and named for the Judge, located in Shelbyville and went into partnership with his uncle in 1858. He was well educated, a bright, talented young fellow, quite famous for his ability to make an interesting speech, having all the fire and imagination that was characteristic of the speeches of the southern people at that period. He was a democrat and idolized by the old fellows who used to listen to his fiery speeches. He died in 1863, and at a Bar meeting, to commemorate his virtues, Judge Gallagher, who presided on the bench at that time, among other things said of him: "He was the soul of honor; I do not believe he knew how to do a dishonest act."

As indicating the customs of the past, I relate a circumstance occurring at the home of Wm. Middlesworth near Windsor. Hall and I stopped there on our way to Windsor to try a case, and I was introduced to Mr. and Mrs. Middlesworth. Mr. Middlesworth at once invited us into the dining-room and set out a demijohn of whisky and poured out three glasses. I did not drink, so declined. Mr. Middlesworth then offered me cherry bounce, then wine, each of which I declined. He looked at me in a queer way, but I forgot all about it. Years afterwards,

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after Mr. Middlesworth quit drinking entirely, he told me he was never more mad in his life, and came near showing me the door. I was entirely void of such intention of course.

The writer remembers Mr. Hall as being a genial, whole-souled companion, and though we differed upon nearly every question, we were excellent friends. I recall clearly the last time I ever saw him. He was, with myself, engaged in a law suit on Sand Creek. We rode there through the woods on what is known as Hidden Mill road, took our dinners in a basket, and camped in the woods, enjoying it all as well as the law suit. At that time he had a very red nose, and his friends joined with me in having fun at his expense on that subject. Two or three days later this inflammation developed into erysipelas and attacked the brain, causing sudden death. It was a great grief to his friends, and had he lived a few years longer, there was no office in this democratic county or district, that he could not have secured.

WM. J. HENRY

came here in 1860 from Iowa. He was a remarkable man in many ways. He had very little education, but he was a great student, particularly of law and theological questions. He was a prominent member of the M. E. church, and a great Sunday School worker. He made his Sunday visits to the various parts of the county with a double object in view, the moral of which the writer does not undertake to pass upon. One of the objects was to establish Sunday Schools, or aid one that was already established, and the other was to make the acquaintance of the citizens of that vicinity, probably with a view to getting into business that might be in an incubative state at that time; he was a success in getting business, and when he got it, he never failed to

make it interesting in his mode of management. He recognized the well known fact, that probably every lawyer experiences when making a visit to the country. As we all know many persons have legal problems that they want solved; they think they are victims of a wrong that somebody has perpetrated, that they have an interest in a few feet or a few acres of their neighbor's land across the line; some trouble has occurred in the school district; the Highway Commissioners have done either too much or too little; some dog has trespassed on a neighbor's sheep; some domestic trouble exists; and when the lawyer is in the country, even though it be Sunday, a little valuable information may be extracted without pay. While this information was being obtained from Brother Henry, he would be getting a client and advise some sort of a suit and at the same time be doing the Lord's work, and getting a good yellow-leg chicken dinner.

While Henry was engaged in active practice, as before stated, he also prepared a Digest of the Illinois Reports, having his partner, Mr. Reed, do the laborious part of writing it out with the pen, as type-writers and stenographers were then unknown. He also wrote and had published a large volume, I think entitled "The Court and Cross," and a large volume entitled "Ecclesiastical Law." These two books were printed by the Methodist Book Concern, and he associated some M. E. bishop with him as co-editor for the purpose of getting them into the market. The law book was an excellent work, and is still authority in the courts. Mr. Henry made use of his Biblical knowledge in trials, and naturally often made a good hit.

I remember the first case in which I ever made a jury speech. In the fall term, 1860, Henry had brought suit for a man named Askins, for damages received in a fight, in which

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his client had one of his fingers bitten off by the other fellow, and asked me to open the case to the jury. I was fresh from school, a college where fist-fights were not regarded as very genteel, and of course I made an attack upon the immorality and criminality of the man who bit our man's finger off. Judge Thornton had the other side, and he was in his prime and at his best, and knew Shelby County and a Shelby county jury much better than I did, and that there was a very pronounced feeling here against men that they called "yankees," and he scored me to the quick; he told them that I was a young man from the North, a sort of a "Northern light," and had come down here to teach these gray-headed old farmers morals and manners, etc. I felt pretty sore until Henry made the best speech of his life, as I thought then, by quoting Job to the jury, telling them that Judge Thornton seemed to take the same view of himself that one of Job's friends did, "that when he died, wisdom would die also." Mr. Henry was a partner of T. F. Dove for several years, and it is fair to infer that Mr. Dove got all Henry's points on the subject of money-making as he has been a great success in that line since. Henry died in Kansas City a few years ago, from an accident that occurred in an elevator. From what I know of his business, and what he had told me about the enterprise he was engaged in there, he would have made several thousand dollars in a short time; but his son-in-law and nephew who took charge of his affairs were not competent to carry out his project, and his family lost everything.

HON. W. W. HESS

is another member of our Bar, who has passed on several years ago. He came here in about '62 or '63, and went into partnership shortly

after with the Hon. Lloyd B. Stephenson. Mr. Hess was a democrat, and was elected County Judge about 1876, and held office two terms, or until his death. His practice was not extensive, but he made a fair judge and aimed to hold the scales of justice level. He was married to the daughter of Dr. Harnett, and his widow still resides in Shelbyville.

J. WM. LLOYD,

once of the Bar of Shelby County, is another who has passed over the Great Divide. He was born in Springfield, Illinois, in 1841, was educated in Moultrie county, and for many years was connected with the clerk's office, and was undoubtedly the finest penman in the county. He was recorder for many years, and the books he wrote in look like copper plate. He was also engaged in real estate business, and made a set of abstracts of titles which is still in use. He studied law with Thornton and Hall, and formed a partnership at one time with T. E. Ames. He was a fine business man, an excellent citizen, and left surviving him, a wife and two children. His widow is the sister of Wm. C. Kelley, an attorney in this city. Both of his children died a short time after his death. His wife still survives.

H. S. MOUSER

was an attorney here for a number of years. He came here as a republican, but changed his politics at the time of the Greely campaign, and was elected Superintendent of Public Instruction for the county. He was a pretty fair lawyer, noted for his ability to make the most out of the small points in a law-suit, and had a peculiar way of looking at the jury and smiling, with a smile that was child-like and bland, when he thought he made a point by some question or remark. He was twice married, his last wife being the sister

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of Jeff. Brewster of this place. He removed to Huron, Dakota, at the time of the Dakota boom, with G. W. Abel and others, and has made a success of his profession.

WILLIAM CHEW.

heretofore mentioned, was born in Martinsville, O., in 1836, and his father removed to Shelby county about 1850, onto a farm. Mr. Chew became a farmer, and often boasted of having plowed the virgin prairies with ox teams. He was educated at the Lutheran University, Springfield, Illinois, taught school in Shelby county, and studied law with Moulton & Chafee, and was admitted to practice in 1871. He was a large man with fine address, and was elected by the republicans as minority representative from this county, and served in the Legislature with Hon. Jas. A. Connely, and "Long Jones," of Jo Daviess County. He was a stalwart republican and always in favor of every and any law, that looked toward the benefit of the laboring classes, as he claimed to have experience with them, and knew their virtues and their rights. He was a great admirer of Robert Burns, and quoted his poems with a great deal of pleasure, and gathered from them their most subtle meaning. He was a disciple of Alexander Campbell, and was ever ready to take up the weapon of argument for the doctrines of his church, or the doctrines of his party. He was absolutely honest in his business, and was never fully appreciated by a large number of our people, largely on account of his brisk manners. He probably adopted these manners from his early life with the English colony in the north part of the county, who were first-class citizens in their way, both men and women, but they had a way, or habit, of calling a spade, a spade, saying what they meant without any circumlocution.

L. B. STEPHENSON

came to Shelby county some time in '66 or '67. He was born in Virginia and had been educated at the university founded by Thos. Jefferson, and like other young men of his time, had gone into the Confederate army and stayed with it until Lee's surrender. He was married to Kate Gray and had a family of four girls. Mrs. Stephenson was a charming hostess, having all the lovely qualities that characterize the best class of southern women, and when she had two or three of her beautiful sisters with her, which frequently occurred, they had as charming a home as one might wish to visit. Mr. Stephenson was elected State's Attorney for this county, and held the office for eight years, and was afterward elected State Senator from this District, and later removed to St. Louis, where he still lives. He was a persevering man, and had the faculty of making money out of most anything he turned his attention to. He was always a democrat, but had a large number of warm personal republican friends, notwithstanding he had been an officer in the Confederate army. It is understood that he made considerable money out of Mexican mines, and out of zinc and lead at Joplin, as well as in the queensware store that he and his brother had at St. Louis. He and

MR. WM. BAUM,

also a lawyer at Shelbyville, at one time owned the macadam road between Belleville and East St. Louis. He handled cattle, bought and sold land in Shelby county, and showed that brains was just as essential in business as it was in the law office. The judge of our Circuit Court at the present time is the

HON. TRUMAN E. AMES,

who came to Illinois from Potsdam, N. Y., and

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settled in Windsor, where he married a daughter of James Hilsabeck. He taught school in Windsor and studied law at the same time under the direction of Moulton and Chafee, afterwards graduating from the Michigan Law School in 1877. In May, 1880, upon the advice of Mr. Chafee, he removed to Shelbyville, and soon after joined the democratic party and was elected County Judge. Subsequently, at the last Judicial election, he was chosen one of the Circuit Judges of this Judicial District. He has held court in each of the nine counties constituting this circuit, and from the reports from those counties, he has given good satisfaction. He is a man very choice in his clothes, both as to the quality and the fit, and it might be said of him, as it was of Judge Chas. Constable, who once occupied this bench and was famous for his immaculate dress, "that if he was sentenced to stay in jail over night without his tooth brush and clothes brush and night shirt, it would kill him." The Judge is a genial man, and having no fuss with any body, and a good disposition, he makes friends and also makes every man feel when he meets him, that if he has a chance, he will vote for him again. He is a member of the M. E. church, and belongs to the Masonic fraternity. He has one son who has about finished his course for a dental surgeon. He lives on Broadway.

T. F. DOVE

came from "back yonder," from Fairfield county, O., and like a large part of their citizens, he lived "nine miles on the pike from Lancaster." He was educated at the Wesleyan University at Delaware, and loyal to his Alma Mater, he is sending his two sons to the same school. His boys have been bicycling through Europe during the vacation of 1900. His eldest son, Clark,

spent nearly a year in our army in our war with Spain. Mr. Dove came to Shelbyville in '74, as Superintendent of our High School. He had read law prior to his coming here, and he formed a partnership with Wm. J. Henry for a few years. He has found out that loaning money and speculating in lands, and buying notes at a liberal discount, are more profitable than the practice of law, and it is generally understood that he has made more money in this way than any two lawyers in ordinary practice. There is no question but that his aim is to die rich, and if anyone gets in the way of his progress they are liable to be run over. He is a man of unusually good sense, large physique, a jolly, good fellow and much liked. He was toast-master at the famous banquet given on the occasion of the hanging of the pictures of Judges Thornton and Moulton, in June, 1898, and if all that was said at that banquet had been preserved, his name would have gone down to posterity in a halo of glory. The political questions that have been disturbing the two parties about the Philippine Islands, were fully settled that night in a prolonged debate, in which Judge Phillips and General Black were for the keeping of the Islands, and Judge Eden, of Sullivan, was determined that they should be let loose; about four o'clock in the morning the matter was settled, as we then supposed, permanently, nobody making any protest, except Eden. Dove is a high-tariff, hard-money democrat, and can give more and better reasons for the faith that is in him, than any other democrat in the county. If he had not been so determined to make money, and had turned his attention to the law or polities with the same energy and sense that he shows in his business, he would have been a man of extraordinary power in these lines. He owns thousands of acres of land, and

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so far as the writer is informed, no body that ever owed him a debt, has ever succeeded in long evading payment.

Mr. Dove's first wife was a Miss Alta Clark, of Columbus, I think, and was beloved by every one who knew her. She was the mother of the two boys mentioned. His second wife was a Miss Williams, also from Columbus, a charming singer, and she has made friends of all with whom she has become acquainted. Mr. Dove has a fine home on Main street in Shelbyville, a good library of miscellaneous books, and is a great reader. He is a liberal entertainer, and when conference was held in Shelbyville, Bishop McCabe, Bishop Bowman and Bishop Simpson and many others found royal entertainment and the most absolute freedom in Dove's residence. He is regarded as a fluted pillar in the M. E. church, with a coin capital, and he and the church stand together for all the good things that are going. The beautiful edifice, erected in 1899, for the worship of that congregation in Shelbyville, probably owes as much to Dove's bank account, if not more, than that of any other man.

WILLIAM C. KELLEY.

the present partner of H. J. Hamlin, is an excellent lawyer and an excellent man. He is exceptionally modest; at the same time, in the trial of a law suit, while he never tries to make a parade before a jury, he is very tenacious, and if he advises to bring a suit he is about sure to win it. His judgment of the law is excellent, and he would never advise any one to get into a doubtful case. He is as conscientious as a preacher, and in a great many matters, has far better judgment than many of them. He was a Bar candidate for Circuit Judge from this county, and if he had been elected, no lawyer in the district

would ever have regretted it. He is a member of the Christian church, is a great reader of all kinds of miscellaneous literature, and has some remarkable notions upon nearly every one of the occult sciences. He was educated in Kentucky, and came very near being a republican, but probably he looked over the territory, and concluded, that in Shelby county, the chances for the democrats were two to one; though he may have had some leaning in that direction because his ancestors were built that way. Kelley is a tall man, he never tells a joke, but he appreciates all that he hears. The space allowed the writer is not sufficient to permit of the saying of half of the good things that might be said of Judge Kelley. He is a pains-taking, careful and strictly honest lawyer; what more need any one have said of him?

HONORABLE WALTER C. HEADEN

is also one of the lawyers to the manor born. He was a son of old Dr. Wm. Headen, who died when Walter was about ten years old, and the Hon. S. W. Moulton took the little orphan into his family, and he and Mrs. Moulton cared for him as they would for one of their own, had they been fortunate enough to have had children. He received a normal school education at Normal, Illinois, and after teaching at White Hall, Green County, a year, he entered the office of Moulton and Chafee, and studied law. He was an exceedingly bright boy, and studied law with great assiduity under the personal teachings of Mr. Moulton, whom he always called uncle, and when admitted was taken into partnership, which partnership lasted until January 1st, 1897. Headen is a fine lawyer, a good pleader, and a logical, impressive talker, and is able to take care of himself before court or jury on any occasion. His

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long association with Mr. Moulton has made him very careful, and he is an adviser and manager of a law suit of which any client may be proud, and he may know that his business is being safely handled as long as Headen has control of it. He has been twice elected to the Legislature, and acquitted himself while there in such a way, as to receive the respect and esteem of both his party friends, and his opponents. He has been City Attorney, County Administrator, a member of the School Board, and in each office has served his constituency with marked credit. He has a beautiful home on North First street, a lovely wife, and two children now about grown. His wife is Virginia Barrett, daughter of Addison Barrett, and a most lovely woman and fit help-mate for such a husband. Their son, Thomas Moulton, lately graduated, with honors, from the Champaign University.

About ten years ago Mr. Moulton made Mr. Headen a gift of his law library, which was one of the best in this part of the state, to which he has added from time to time, so that he is thoroughly equipped with the tools, as well as brains, to make his business a success. He has often been heard to express his gratitude for the kindness Mr. Moulton extended to him, and for the pleasant manner in which the older members of the Bar, especially Judge Thornton, treated him in the beginning of his professional career. Another one of the lawyers to the manor born, Jan. 4, 1874, is

GEORGE BANCROFT RHOADS.

He is a bachelor yet, the only son of Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Rhoads. The doctor was an educated man, and one of the soldiers of 1861. Mrs. Rhoads was a school teacher here in Shelbyville for many years, and both of these parents de-

voted their time to the education of their boy, and made a marked success of it. George was a graduate in pharmacy when he was eighteen years old. He reads Latin and French with ease, writes shorthand, and is a past master of all theological questions, and knows more about the Bible, probably, than any man of his age in the County. He is a disciple of the doctrines of Jno. Knox and Jno. Calvin, but while he is so well informed on all these subjects, he is as fine a law student as ever studied in an office. He studied law under Moulton, Chafee and Headen, with tireless energy and perseverance, mastered the technicalities and elementary principles, and became an adept in the Horn book precedents, and then finding judicial decisions to support them His mind is comprehensive and analytical, and few young men of his age have had better success for the amount of business there is in a county like ours, than he. I have expressed the hope of sometime seeing him elevated to the position of Judge; for I believe he would make one that would be an honor to the state in every way. It is hardly necessary to say that he is a young man of excellent morals, and habits. The time was when lawyers were very convivial, and in the old times it was not an infrequent thing for members of our profession to get very hilarious. This habit or peculiarity has ceased to exist anywhere, and very few members of the Bar in Shelby County can be charged with any lapses from strict sobriety. The fact is, that business has developed throughout the country in such a way, that no client wants a fellow half drunk, to either advise him or manage his business, or to defend him if charged with a crime, and the Bar, as a rule, have sense enough not to take that into their mouths which steals away their judgment. Another one of the members of the Shelby County Bar is

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WILLIAM HEADEN CHEW.

present partner of G. D. Chafee. He has not been long enough before the public to be properly appreciated for what he is worth, but for quick apprehension of the legal points, clear, concise and logical presentation of it to the jury or court, or in making a post prandial speech Chew has few equals, and it requires no prophet to foretell that at no distant date, he will be the peer of any lawyer at the Bar. He was married to a daughter of Mat Embry—Mary—in 1898, and lives in a beautiful house on Morgan street. He is a member of the Christian church. He is a member of some of the secret societies and is held in high esteem by them all. He is at present candidate for State's Attorney on the republican ticket in this county, and if he can manage to borrow seven or eight hundred votes from his enemies, he can be elected.

EBEN A. RICHARDSON.

son of Geo. W. Richardson, was born on a farm on Sand Creek, in this County, and studied law under T. E. Ames. Richardson is a very popular man, and a great hustler for business. He has been Master-in-Chancery for several years, and with his legal business, his office of Master, and a first-class commercial man in the way of handling cattle and hogs, lands and promissory notes, has accumulated a very respectable fortune. He works on the principle of going after what he wants. He has been connected with several criminal cases. His defense of Atterberry, who was indicted for the murder of his father, was very energetic and unique. Twig told the jury on that occasion, that Atterberry was as good a man as ever lived, that he loved him, and he shed tears copiously until the jury saw fit to let the fellow go. Though not an advocate for lynch law, it is safe to say that justice overtook

Atterberry at Sullivan a short time afterwards, for upon the unspoken testimony, and the fine scent of two blood hounds, Atterberry was captured by a mob in Sullivan and hung for an atrocious crime. The chances are that justice was done at last, although in rather an unjust manner. He married Mary Johnson, daughter of J. W. Johnson, and has one son.

W. O. WALLACE.

our present State's Attorney, is another one of the Shelby County boys practicing law in this County. He has held the office now for two terms, and his chief characteristic as a public prosecutor, is either to persuade or scare a man, charged with crime, into a full confession. If he were gauged by his success in this line, he is a pronounced success. The rumor is that no person wants to make a trade with Wallace if he is laboring under the impression that he doesn't know how to look out for himself in that line of business. The democratic party, at the last primary, seemed to think that they wanted a change, so Wallace was retired and

MR. JAS. K. P. GRIDER

was nominated for that office. Mr. Grider came to Shelbyville from Windsor or near there, and is a well behaved, modest young lawyer, whose real merits are much above the trade mark which the public had given him. He is a very much better lawyer than some who make twice as much noise as he. He was born on a farm in 1866, near Windsor.

HOWLAND J. HAMLIN

is one of the lawyers in Shelby County who has, with some of the other eminent men, made the County famous for its excellent Bar. He came from Potsdam, N. Y., as did Judge Ames, and

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taught school in Missouri and in Windsor, and while he was teaching he studied law under the tutorage of Judge Thornton and Geo. R. Wendling. He practiced in two or three places before swinging his shingle in Shelbyville; he was law partner of Mr. Wendling and afterwards with Judge Thornton; he acquired legal acumen from Judge Thornton, and a fine idea of eloquence from Mr. Wendling. At present he is the partner of W. C. Kelley, and is candidate for Attorney General upon the republican ticket, having been nominated for that high office at Peoria, under remarkable circumstances. He is a fine stump speaker and has made speeches all over the state, and stanch friends also, and when he was announced for that office, these friends came readily to the front and pushed his chances to the limit with an ardor and a devotion that did and should have made him proud, and justly so. For several years, when Mr. Altgeld was Governor, Mr. Hamlin had been connected with the Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners as attorney and advisor. This was probably due to the warm friendship of J. W. Yantis, who was Secretary of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission during Altgeld's term. Upon the retirement of Mr. Altgeld, and the formation of the new Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners under Governor Tanner, Mr. Hamlin was re-appointed and served with great credit, none of the last Commission being more than nominal lawyers. In this way Mr. Hamlin obtained acquaintance with the members of the Bar and with railroad men, and the genial and happy manner and jolly laugh, made him friends wherever he went. He is a fine all-round lawyer, bright as a Damascus blade in all legal matters, shrewd in his weighing of men and circumstances in presenting his cause to a court or to a jury, or to a public audience. He will make

a first-class Attorney General, and gives promise of being candidate for other higher offices; he is such a man as the people will delight to honor. He has a beautiful home on North Broadway, an accomplished wife and beautiful daughter, and three boys who give promise to be "chips off of the old block." His wife was a daughter of Dr. York, of Windsor, and is a woman of great and remarkable strength of character and purity of purpose. Hamlin owes no little to the devotion and love of this noble woman.

BENJAMIN F. WILSON.

Fairfield county, Ohio, has produced a great many eminent men. For some reason they have had a habit of emigrating to other fields, probably because there was no room for their towering ambition and for expansion along the famous "pike." Most of them lived "nine miles from Lancaster." It was on that historic ground the subject of this sketch first saw the light of day. While yet a small boy he came with his parents to Shelby County, Illinois, settling on a farm in the southern part of Shelby County. He attended school at the district school, working night and morning for his board while attending his last year in the country school. He taught his first district school at the age of eighteen and used what money he made from teaching to attend college, where he received a more liberal education. He began the study of law with Mouser & Kelley, where he took care of the office for the use of books and instructions given by W. C. Kelley, now of the firm of Hamlin & Kelley. He was admitted to the bar June 9th, 1885, and formed a partnership with his instructor, W. C. Kelley. Two years later he formed a partnership with Judge Anthony Thornton. He was elected City Attorney in 1887, and has

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been connected with the city's administration ever since, being now City Attorney for the third time.

Mr. Wilson's record as a clean man has never been questioned. He enjoys the confidence of all parties; and republicans as well as democrats believe in him as a man; and while a strong democrat, he never assails his political opponents with abuse, but makes them his friends with clean-cut argument. One of his republican friends, in speaking of him when he was a candidate for State Senator in the campaign of 1900, said: "He has never held an office that he did not do more for the people, and take more interest in their affairs, and accomplish more than his duties required; and no man of any party questions either his ability or his integrity." One of the leading republicans of this city said the other day: "I would rather have the opinion of B. F. Wilson on a question of law than anybody else. There may be just as good lawyers, but I have confidence in him; and the reason I say this is because he has been my legal adviser for years; and he has always been right with me."

Mr. Wilson was married in 1882 to Miss Mary F. Thomas of Shelby County. The family consists of two girls and two boys, the youngest being about 11 years old. One of the daughters graduated from the schools of this city this spring and one daughter will graduate next year. The mother of this family is a woman of rare accomplishments, being happiest when surrounded by her family as a reading circle.

Mr. Wilson is a large, heavy man, with a strong face, self-poised, cool, deliberate, and has great courage. He is not a good "mixer" in the usual sense, as he won't go into a deliberate combination to do either a political or financial dirty job. He was, for several years, the police magis-

trate of Shelbyville, and decided every cause with the most commendable judicial fairness. He was candidate, in his party, for Probate Judge, and if real merit had been at a premium, would have been nominated; and if elected, Shelby County would have had a County Court to be proud of. He is of a judicial turn, and has the sterling qualifications that go to make a good Judge. However, it is not always that men best qualified by nature and attainments, obtain the place they are best fitted for. Wilson will be a factor in Shelby County politics hereafter, and may win when better known.

WILLIAM H. RAGAN

is a man of boundless energy. He was born in this county; his father was a soldier and a farmer. Ragan studied law under W. C. Kelley, when a student in the High school of Shelbyville. He literally worked his way through school, doing all sorts of chores, making his home with Mr. Bushrod W. Henry, the father of B. W. Henry of Vandalia. He was a rapid worker and could do anything in the house or out, and when his work was done he would literally run to school. He graduated from our High school and became one of the teachers in it. He prides himself on his ability to make a speech, and has won his way to prominence through that faculty. He has been County Judge and School Director, and is now partner with Judge Thornton.

WILLIAM H. CRAIG

is the last acquisition to our Bar. He was engaged for several years, and is yet, in making abstracts of title in the firm of Craig & Garis. He was admitted in the first class after the adoption of the new rules for examinations for admissions, and was the only one in seven applicants who passed the examination. He has a good

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knowledge of law, and good judgment, but is handicapped by being partially deaf. He is a safe adviser in all matters pertaining to real estate, and gives promise of making a superior man.

RICHARD T. EDDY

was born in Shelbyville, January 26th, 1869, and is the son of William Eddy, who was of Irish descent, and his mother was the daughter of John Barrett, an Englishman who lived southwest of Shelbyville. Wm. Eddy was a shoemaker by trade, but became a farmer while his boys were young. He was a strict disciplinarian, a great and intelligent student of the Bible, and a member of the M. E. church. At his death he left a large family, Dr. Wm. J. Eddy of Shelbyville, Dr. J. H. Eddy, now of Decatur, and O. T. Eddy, dental surgeon, also of Decatur; Dowling Eddy who is now in the Klondike, and Richard T., at present located in Shelbyville, Ill. Richard was educated at DePauw University, and studied law there and at Chicago. When he was twenty-five years old he was associated with John R. George, and practiced law in Chicago. At the breaking out of the war with Spain, he entered the service of Uncle Sam, 2nd Illinois Vol. Infantry, and went to Cuba, where he saw much of Cuban life and the rank evidence of the depressing effect of Spanish misrule on that gem of the sea. Soon after his return, his brother-in-law and brother died, leaving families and farms that imperiously demanded a man's supervision, and he, in an unselfish manner, dropped his own work and took up the brother's burden. This probably is only a temporary arrangement, and as he is young yet, he can outlive the loss to him, and take up his chosen work with new zeal, and profit by his experience. He is a young man of talent and the most genial manners, and has a host of warm friends.

HON. C. K. TORRENCE,

who lives in Cowden, was admitted to practice law a few years ago. He was elected to the Legislature in 1896, and served his constituency with credit to himself; he gives more attention to the management of his lands than he does to his practice of law, and he is highly respected by all with whom he is acquainted. His son,

THORNTON TORRENCE,

was admitted to practice the present year, and is now engaged in teaching school. Another of the Bar of Shelby County is

WILLIAM TOWNSEND,

He studied law in Sullivan, under Albert Green, has been State's Attorney of Shelby County, and Master-in-Chancery. He has never been over-worked by his business, and reads fiction and poetry, and at odd times, he tells us, he lectures on "Smiles and Tears at the Shrine of Bacchus," and on subjects pertaining to the Modern Woodmen. He is a better lawyer than many men give him credit for, but has been unable to break into the cliques and rings of his party to any great extent, owing probably to his independent disposition. He was a gold democrat in '96. What he may be in the campaign of 1900 remains to be seen.

MILTON BARBEE,

though admitted to practice, shelved himself by going into the office of Superintendent of Schools and insurance.

GEO. R. WENDLING

was born Feb. 15th, 1845, and grew to manhood here. His grand-father was one of the Great Napoleon's soldiers, and was with him on the famous retreat from Moscow, and his ashes re-

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pose in our cemetery. Geo. R.'s father was a good black-smith, a good farmer, and an honest man. He gave this son a good college education, and the boy repaid the father, by means of liberal support when the old man had ceased to work. He took his law course with such men as Gen. J. C. Black, and Joseph Mann. Having a fancy for elocution, he took lessons from the tragedian, McCulloch. He commenced practice with A. T. Hall and J. R. Eden about the time Thornton was elected Judge of the Supreme Court. Previous to that time he edited a newspaper for a few months, and spoiled a brilliant newspaper man by going into law practice. He achieved success at the Bar from the first, and while others knew more law than he, no one could tell what he knew better than Wendling. He was associated with Moulton, Thornton and Chafee in the defense of the banker, Thos. M. Thornton, for the killing of George Tackett, nine years before. While each attorney performed the part assigned to him with marked ability, Wendling, by the witchery of his voice and the wise use of all the great speeches ever made by the greatest lawyers in the United States in similar trials easily won first honors and held the hearts of the audience and jury. I have heard many famous men speak, but take him for all in all, Wendling is the most effective speaker of them all. He has won fame and first place all over the United States by his matchless eloquence, but in none of his magnificent lectures any time I have heard him, has he risen to the full height he often attained in talking to a jury.

In a way, he is Shelby County's favorite son, but he has shaken the dust of our streets from his shoes, and claims some other place as his home, yet his old friends here are proud of him and his achievements. Prior to the trial, he and Chafee,

working together, procured the release on habeas corpus of John Austin, Jake Austin and Mrs. Antonio McClintonck, before Judge Anthony Thornton, then of the Supreme Court. These defendants were in jail on a charge of the murder of Eugene McClintonck, husband of Antonio. They were acquitted. Mrs. McClintonck has since been tried on a similar charge and escaped in Ft. Smith, Ark. Wendling was member of the constitutional convention that drafted our constitution of 1870.

He married Josephine, the sister of Hon. L. B. Stephenson, mentioned in these notes, and was blessed by being the father of two daughters, Frances and Grayson, and one son, George. One of these daughters has become the wife of Mr. Catchings, a lawyer living in Mississippi, and his son is in some Virginia college. Shelby County can be proud of these girls, for no more graceful or beautiful girls ever visited Washington. Wendling's fame and fortune is in his lectures. He has, so his bureau says, delivered them over 15,000 times at a price from \$100 to \$500 a lecture. The themes of these lectures are: "If a Man Die Shall He Live Again?" "Unseen Realities;" "The Man of Galilee;" "Saul of Tarsus;" "Is Death the End?" "Stone-wall Jackson;" "Mirabeau," and others. In the thousands of times he has spoken, he has compassed the entire country, and stood before as fine audiences as ever greeted, criticised and cheered any man, and only a few of the good things said and forgotten, may be embalmed here for his early friends. Of "Saul of Tarsus" from Baltimore American. "He traced the history of Paul's life as orator, hero, martyr, and man by a series of beautiful word pictures, and delivered some of Paul's speeches with wonderful effect."

Syracuse (N. Y.) Standard. (Editorial.)

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"Beauty of diction, force of logic, and earnestness are the leading characteristics of Mr. Wendling on the platform. His tribute to the marvelous power of Paul and his impassioned apostrophe were something never to be forgotten. The delineation was masterful, the peroration was sublime."

"Is Death the End," Williamsport (Pa.) Gazette. "There is no other man living who is like or similar to this famous man in the character of his public lectures. He more successfully popularizes religious, scientific, and philosophical subjects than all others. He is today the most sought for of all American lecturers."

Of "Stonewall Jackson," Charlotte (N. C.) Observer. "Charlotte had been prepared by critics, in whom she had confidence, to expect something grand in Wendling, but of his power, wondrous that it is; his magnetism of look, speech, and action; his beauty of thought and word in which he clothes the thought; his magnificent descriptive power—of these, hearsay, like the photograph, which can convey but a cold and imperfect idea of what the living face with its expression and color is like—can give but an imperfect idea of what Wendling is. The stage was, in itself, an inspiration. The portrait of the great Confederate, the theme of the evening's lecture, hung on the centre wall. Back of it was draped the Confederate flag, in which his body was wrapped after death. Underneath the portrait was Jackson's sword, and to the right and left his field-glasses, pistols, gold spurs sent him by the ladies of Baltimore, and also the spurs he wore all during the war, and other Confederate relics. Mrs. Stonewall Jackson herself superintended the decoration of the stage, and its simplicity was characteristic of her good taste."

The New York Chautauqua, as the head center of education, said of him: "This gentle-

man has written his name at Chautauqua where none can reach to obliterate it. He was born in Illinois, educated at the Chicago University, and is now a practicing lawyer. As to the scope of his reading and knowledge, he seems to be an encyclopaedia in himself. The only department of learning which did not glitter and blaze in his lecture, was his professional lore. The jurist was lost sight of in the historian, the philosopher, the polemic, and the statesman. His analytical faculty is the acutest, and his logic remorseless. He has just enough of the poetic element to dress his thoughts in attractive and beautiful form without obscuring a thought or disturbing his argument. * * *

"He is yet in the morning of life, verging towards high noon; stoutly built, a keen eye, black hair, and in all respects, a splendid man. He held the platform as a king, and swayed his audience for two hours by the sceptre of his eloquence."

Pages of rich extracts from his lectures might be given, if space were permitted, but my own inclination goes toward the genial neighbor, the jolly friend, the charming companion, the fun of a fight in some more or less interesting law suit before some wise Justice of the Peace, or a court with more power and dignity, yet perhaps no more sense; or at the fireside, or in the shade with cigar and story and joke and tale, or fishing up and down the Okaw or in the lakes of the North. These are things that Wendling enjoyed, and he has written me in the past, that his heart ever turned to his boyhood home and friends, as the old coons did to Suawanee River. Wendling was of German and French extraction, is of stout build, but very graceful on the platform. He is convivial in his habits, against his best principles, but we, who know of the hereditary trend, and the sentiments that



PHOTO ELLIS CO. BOSTON.

JUDGE SAMUEL W. MOULTON.

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were in vogue here when he was a boy and young man, can and do feel that he has fought against heredity and fashion, and stood firmly where weaker men would have fallen never to rise. George was born a democrat, and quite naturally, in this county, remained one, but when the party made such a mess of itself about the war, he thought correctly its days of usefulness were past, and delivered a funeral oration over its supposed ashes; after it was galvanized into life again, he kissed and made up, only to have his affections grow cold, as Bryan led the party to the altar of 16 to 1. But I see now he has again sought rest in the old mother's arms, and seeks to be shielded from the great shadow of imperialism that Bryan has hypnotized the old party into believing hangs like a pall over the country.

HON. SAMUEL W. MOULTON,

the most distinguished lawyer of our Bar excepting Judge Thornton, was born in Hamilton, near Salem, Massachusetts, in 1821, and was educated in the common schools and academy of his native town. His father was a sea captain for over thirty years, and Mr. Moulton himself made a voyage of some distance, but owing to his being extremely near-sighted, he was compelled to fit himself for other work. About the time he was twenty or before, in 1841, he followed the New England custom of emigrating to the West, traveling by stage and on the canoes and rivers, teaching school for about a year in Kentucky, and afterwards, in 1843, spent a year or more in teaching in Mississippi, where he became a voter, casting his first vote for Polk, when the battle cry was "54—40 or fight." He was married in Mississippi in 1844, to Miss Mary H. Affleck, of Scotch birth and decent, and shortly afterwards they moved to Illinois, living a short time in Coles County, near Oakland. Mrs. Moulton

was a daughter of Thos. and Mary Affleck, and was born in Dumfries, Scotland. The family moved to Illinois in 1836. Mr. Affleck was a merchant and land-owner, and a man of great ability and rare versatility. Mr. and Mrs. Moulton have lived together for over fifty-six years. In her prime Mrs. Moulton was a most hospitable entertainer, and all her life has been devoted to charitable works, and many an unfortunate or sick neighbor has felt the kindness which she so lavishly extended. Mrs. Moulton was a great reader, and has a fine sense of the beauties of literature, and still enjoys reading and repeating both old and new jokes. In her prime her house was ever open to the young people, and the center of the best society, the young people always enjoying the mirth of the event as well as the lavish and appetizing repast which she served with great skill. She is a member of the M. E. church and has been for 50 years. Among her good works, I take pleasure in mentioning the fact that while she has had no children of her own, she has spent herself in training and educating a number of girls and giving her best thoughts and affections to her adopted son, Walter C. Headen. Such care and affection as she lavished on the young people who were, for the time being, as her own children, is rarely appreciated at its full value and seldom repaid in the only coin that would fill a woman's heart.

In 1847 Mr. Moulton was admitted to the Bar of Illinois, and commenced practice at Sullivan. In 1849 he removed to Shelbyville, Illinois, where he still lives, honored and respected by numerous friends. For fifty years or more he has been in active practice in all of the important litigations occurring in this county, and for a great many years in the adjoining counties of Coles, Effingham, Fayette, Montgomery, Christian and Macon. He and Mr. Thornton

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were nearly always on opposite sides. While Thornton was a man great, powerful, massive, with a heavy voice and aggressive manner, Moulton was a slight man with a weak voice and poor eyesight, yet always alert, wide-awake, and perfectly informed upon every question that might naturally be expected to come up on a trial. At first blush it might look to a by-stander that the contest between the two was very unequal, yet before the suit was finally disposed of, Mr. Moulton always gave a good account of himself, and none of his clients ever lost any of their rights where he had them in charge. Mr. Moulton was an active politician in the early days, and made his presence felt at home, in the Legislature, in Congress, and wherever he was known. He was elected to the Legislature in 1853, and served three successive terms; he was chairman of the Committee on Education, and to him the great State of Illinois is largely indebted for its most perfect system of free-schools.

For eighteen years or more he was president of the Board of Education, having charge of the Normal University, and in this sketch we have used the speech of Prof. Brownlee, delivered in Shelbyville, June, 1898, on the occasion of unveiling the pictures of Judges Thornton and Moulton in the court house, to emphasize this crowning act in Mr. Moulton's life.

Prof. Brownlee, one of the foremost orators of the state and a teacher of elocution and English literature in the University of Illinois, (now of Charleston), delivered an address upon the common schools of Illinois, showing the connection of Mr. Moulton with that subject, from which he has permitted me to make extracts. For beauty of diction, absolute truthfulness, and elegance of delivery, this speech was the gem of the occasion. Every Shelby County

man must feel proud that his fellow-citizen, Mr. Moulton, was deserving of all the praise therein expressed. Here follow quotations from

MR. BROWNLEE'S SPEECH:

In placing this sentiment upon the program, and in selecting a teacher to respond to it, your committee have not only honored me, but have also honored the noble profession I represent here this day. And in behalf of the 25000 teachers of Illinois, as well as for myself, I desire to express my deep sense of the courtesy thus shown us. The gentlemen you honor in your ceremonies today, each has won honors in an honorable and strenuous profession. More than this, each has been the friend of education and schools. I know this; for not to know something of their long and useful lives, is to argue one's self unknown. And in speaking to my theme, I shall find it impossible not to say some words in praise of one of these gentlemen who has had much to do with the creation of our system of free public schools. It will be a pleasure indeed for me to speak of his priceless services. The poet Landon says:

"There is a delight in singing, though none
hear
Besides the singer; and there is delight
In praising, though the praiser sit alone
And see the praised far off from him, far
above."

We are proud of our imperial state: of her natural resources, her prairies, her forests, her hills, her valleys, her rivers; proud of her civilization, her hamlets, her towns, and her cities, and her chief city, Chicago, Queen of the West, and destined to be the metropolis of the western world.

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"O'er thy wilderness of prairies, Illinois, Illinois,
Straight thy way and never varies, Illinois,
Till upon the western sea,
Stands a great commercial tree,
Turning all the world to thee,
Illinois."

We are proud too, of the history of Illinois
and of the men whose names are written upon
its glittering pages. Indeed,

"Not without thy wondrous story, Illinois,
Illinois,
Can be writ the Nation's glory, Illinois.
On the record of thy years,
Abraham Lincoln's name appears,
Grant, and Logan, and our tears,
Illinois."

And gentlemen, we are also proud of our
system of public schools. In them knowledge
unfolds her ample page rich with the spoils of
time to all the children of the State.

These schools are the safeguard of our
imperial State, and a perpetual fountain of intellec-
tual blessing to us all. Few states in this Union
can boast of a system equal to ours. Pardon a
moment of statistics. There are 25000 teachers
engaged in an office that might be envied by a
seraph of light, that of forming and training the
capacities and characters of nearly one million
of the children of Illinois.

"Oh, these angels of hearts and of households,
They are angels of God in disguise.
His sunlight still sleeps in their tresses,
His glory still gleams in their eyes."

More exactly, these pupils are 900,000 in
number. In addition to teachers and pupils,
there is a host of school officers giving unstinted
service for the good of the state, in most cases,
without compensation. With a school master's
love of arithmetic, I have summed them all up

together and done a little figuring. I find that if all these pupils, teachers, school officers, were to march past this court house in line at the rate of forty a minute for eight hours a day, they would be seventy-two days in passing. The expenses of the schools last year were \$19,000,000. If this sum were in silver dollars stacked one upon another, it would make a column thirty miles high. I find that the value of school property is in round numbers \$50,000,000. This would make a column seventy-five miles high. This imperial commonwealth has wisely undertaken to educate all her children; and as they complete all their studies and go out to take places in this working world, they repay her ten-fold for the cost of their training. But, gentle-
men, this stupendous system of free schools did not grow as grows the grass. These beautiful buildings that decorate our prairies and towns, and cities, did not rise in an hour like an exhalation, to the sound of music and sweet voices, as did Satan's palace, Pandemonium. Our public school system was reached only after a quarter of a century of discussion and struggle, and at last adopted against bitter opposition. It has attained its present breadth and efficiency only through forty years of experiment and effort, and sacrifice. Somewhere I have read the story of a painter whose colors, and whose crimsons in particular, were the despair of his brother artists. Try as they might, they could not equal his rich crimsons. The artist died; and when they laid him out for the grave, they found just over his heart an unhealed wound. The secret of his gorgeous crimson was revealed. He mixed the colors with the blood of his own heart. Even so, there has gone into the establishing and perfecting of our schools the very life-blood of a host of noble men and women. Time will not permit me to speak of the salient

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points in its history. Every great work requires the co-operation of many minds. No one man can be called the creator of this magnificent system.

Mr. Moulton would not thank me if I should endeavor to minimize the services of many men, both of my profession and of his own, who devoted their best energies to the establishment of our school system—he would not, I say, thank me for minimizing their efforts in order to exaggerate his. He is but one link in the golden chain of benefactors who established the free school system of Illinois. But this I may fairly say, that he is the brightest link in the shining chain; and that if any one may be called the father of our free school system, that man is Samuel W. Moulton. "Perhaps," as Emerson suggests, "to the eye of deity one hour in the life of a man or of a state is just as critical as another; but to our imperfect sight, there are certain moments, or years, in the life of a man or of a state that seem more critical than others."

Thus Longfellow says:

"Strange is the life of a man and fatal or fated
the moments,
Whereon turn as on hinges the gates of the
walls adamantine."

The years from '54 to '57, inclusive, constitute the intellectual crisis in the history of Illinois. During those years the State Superintendency was created, the free school system was established and perfected, and the great school at Normal, for the education of teachers, was founded. How fortunate that during those fatal years there was in the legislature a young man from Shelby County who had brought from his New England home, her generous culture and burning belief in free schools; how soon the strong men of my profession learned to counsel

with Samuel W. Moulton, and to confide in him; how they leaned upon him; how freely were the resources of his scholarship and of his trained, legal mind placed at their call. His knowledge of the constitution, and familiarity with legal phraseology enabled him to put their notions into correct form. His hand drafted their bills for the creation of the State Superintendency, for the establishment of a system of free public schools, and the creation of the great mother Normal school. Mr. Moulton was chairman of the committee of education in the House during those critical years. Fortunate State to have such a son in such a position of power, at such a time. Fortunate son to have such an opportunity to serve such a state. Our present is usually said to date from 1855, but the law of '55 proved so defective, that I am inclined to date our system from 1857.

I also quote from Mr. Moulton's appeal in the Legislature for free schools:

"Mr. Speaker, I presume but little difference of opinion exists as to the true object of the two-mill tax—that of providing means for the education of all the children of the State, and that each child is of right entitled to an equal share of the tax, without regard of condition or locality, or from what particular part of the State it was collected. This principle has its foundation in the fact that every child has an absolute right to an education at the hands of somebody, to an extent that shall properly qualify him to discharge his duties as a citizen. Experience shows that when education is left to the voluntary action of parents and others, it is greatly neglected, and amounts almost to a failure. Children come into the world in a helpless condition, and remain so for years. They cannot educate themselves any more than they can

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provide for themselves food and clothing. Hence the duty and necessity of government, providing by general laws, ample means for their education. This can only be done by taxation; and I hold that, as this tax is collected by the same persons and in the same manner as all other state taxes are, it should be disbursed upon the same principle, without regard to where, from what person, or from what county or locality collected; and that any other principle of disbursement operates unequally and unjustly.

"The tax being collected from all property of the state and the object being the education of all the children of the state, it seems to me that it follows as an irresistible conclusion, that each child is entitled to an equal pro rata share of all the money collected; that if the aggregate amount collected is equal to five dollars for each child, then that is the amount that each child is entitled to, without regard to any other circumstances, and especially whether one county pays more or less than another. If the property is to educate the children of the state, then the rich counties ought to pay more than the poor counties, because they have more to pay with, just as the rich man pays more than the poor man. No county or individual has absolute and unlimited control over property. It may be regarded as held in trust for certain purposes. The right of every child in the land to be educated is one of these, and of primary importance, upon which our government stands. This great principle, I trust, will never be subverted and lost sight of by the adoption of the principle that particular localities shall receive back just what they pay, which amounts to no taxation at all.

"Mr. Speaker, I desire only to say a word as to the result of the free school experiment in this state. Two years ago the system was adopted, and it went into operation under not very favor-

able auspices. It was rather a novel thing to many of our citizens, some of them being greatly prejudiced against it; and, besides, there were many defects and objectionable things in the old law, but, notwithstanding the many disadvantages of the old law, the expectation of its friends have been more than realized. The people have been aroused from the apathy that enthralled them; they have been brought into direct contact with the system, good or bad; for when people are taxed for a thing, they become interested in it. The result seems to be that the great mass of the people everywhere are in favor of continuing the two-mill tax, and differ only about the details of the law. It is a remarkable fact, worthy of all remembrance, that no state or people who have once adopted a free school system ever abandoned it."

This bill for an act entitled, "An act to establish and maintain a system of free schools," was passed on final reading, February 5th, was subsequently concurred in by the Senate and approved by the governor, February 16th, 1857,—and the twenty-five years struggle was over and won. The true measure of the greatness of the event is found in its results.

Thus measured, no other event in the history of Illinois equals this. Gen. Wolfe, dropping down the St. Lawrence at midnight to the heights of Abraham, recited in low tones to his officers, Gray's matchless Elegy, and then said: "Gentlemen, I would rather be the author of that poem than to take Quebec tomorrow." Who would not rather go down the ages as the author of that bill creating a system of free schools for Illinois, than as the glorious destroyer of a Spanish fleet in the far Pacific, or even as the captor of Havana. It was during this same session that the chairman drafted for the Illinois Teachers' Association the bill for an act creating the State

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Normal school at Normal, Illinois. The teachers saw that the Normal idea was a corollary of the free school idea. They realized that the "teachers must exist before the scholar can be taught"—that teaching is an art that ought not to be mastered at the expense of the pupils—that building, and furniture, and blackboards, and pupils, do not make a school, unless there is a trained teacher at the desk, skilled in the high office of instruction and discipline. This bill was strongly opposed in the House, but Mr. Moulton was its earnest advocate, and only two days before adjournment he secured its passage. He was named in the bill as one of the first Board of Education, and served for twenty-four years as a trustee—most of the time as president of the Board. He was also chairman of the Building Committee, and risked his private fortune by signing notes in order to raise money to complete the building. Time does not permit me to dwell upon this history of this noble mother Normal of the West. I may not speak of its forty-one years of successful work—of its uplifting influence upon our schools. Suffice it to say that it was so successful in furnishing competent teachers for the schools, that in 1870 another school for the training of teachers was established in Carbondale, during the administration of Governor John M. Palmer. This great school opened for students in 1874, has since been working in noble emulation with that in Normal. Further, two additional Normal schools have been created which will open their doors during the coming year. I have but a moment to speak further of our school system, yet I must call attention to the fact, that this system is now crowned by a noble institution at Urbana, the University of Illinois. But I cannot speak even of this institution, in which every citizen of the state has an interest and pride, without bringing

in the name of Mr. Moulton. His services in its establishment were valuable, and were fitly recognized when the institution was inaugurated. He presided on that occasion. Our system now is complete. No son or daughter of our state need to travel beyond its borders to get an education. Martin Luther set down three rules for the public speaker: 1st. Open your mouth widely. 2nd. Shout out strongly. 3d. Shut it quickly. Unless I make an end I shall violate the last and most important of the three. And yet I may not close without a word more. As the years pass and the way of life of this noble friend of education shall fall into the sear and yellow leaf, let him be cheered by the reflection that he has that which Macbeth could not look to have, and which should accompany old age, as honor, love, obedience, and troops of friends. And among those who love and revere him are the 25000 teachers of Illinois. Say what you will this day, gentlemen, of his career as a lawyer and jurist. We concede it all, but we beg you not to forget to put down also that Samuel W. Moulton is that friend of education, who in the establishment of our system of free public schools, was permitted under the providence of God to render to the state of his adoption the greatest service which is in the power of a citizen to bestow.

In closing, let me say that men never grow old while the heart stays young. The fame of these lawyers, jurists, and statesmen, whom we honor today has gone far beyond the wide boundaries of their state; and yet while they are not old, I may address them in the language of the immortal Falstaff to the Chief Justice of England and say admonishingly:

"Your honors though not clean past your youth, have yet some smack of age in you, some

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relish of the saltiness of time; I humbly beseech your Honors, to have a reverend care of your health."

Mr. Moulton was a Buchanan elector in 1856; was a Democrat up to the time of the war, and followed Douglas' lead in 1861. He supported Douglas in 1860. Espousing the cause of the Union against secession, he was elected to Congress in 1864 as a war Democrat, receiving the votes of the entire Republican party. When Andrew Johnson was president Mr. Moulton took prominent part in the famous trial, and was associated in that work with Thaddeus Stevens, Benjamin Butler, John A. Bingham and other famous men. In 1872 he followed N. F. Banks, Carl Shurz, and Chas. Sumner in supporting Horace Greeley for president, against Grant.

He was afterwards elected to Congress by Democrats in 1880, and again in 1882, and Speaker John G. Carlisle appointed him on the Judiciary committee. In 1896 the apostasy of the old Democratic party from its life-long doctrines on the money question, and following Bryan into the labyrinths of Free Silver and various other wild vagaries, appeared too much for Mr. Moulton, and he supported the McKinley ticket, following the advice of Gen. John M. Palmer, in not wasting his vote. He is at the present time supporting the Republican party in nearly all of the questions now before the public.

In 1898 I conceived the idea of having the life-sized portraits of these veteran lawyers, Thornton and Moulton, painted and hung in the court house in the county where they had for fifty years fought the battles of giants, and by the assistance of the Bar and the Board of Supervisors, and the concurrent act of the Central Committees of both political parties, the

matter was made a great success and the pictures of these two men now adorn the walls of our beautiful court house, and, under an order of the court made at that time, they are to remain as "enduring monuments of greatness and grandeur, and as an inspiration to those now living and to the generations yet unborn." On that occasion Shelby County entertained a host of the brightest men in the state, among whom were Chief Justice Phillips, Judge Creighton, Judge Gross from Springfield, Gen. John C. Black, Judge Bradwell and others from Chicago, Judge Eden from Sullivan, Judge Farmer from Vandalia, Judge Dwight from Centralia, Judge Wood from Effingham, Judges Clark, Hughes and Craig, and others from Mattoon, and numerous others. Letters of regret were sent by United States Chief Justice Melville W. Fuller, the Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson, Prof. John W. Cook, Ex.-Gov. R. J. Oglesby, Ex.-Gov. John P. Altgeld, Ex.-Gov. John M. Palmer, and numerous others. In fact that was a Red-Letter day for Shelbyville, and if space were permitted I know of nothing in the history of the county more unique, interesting and instructive than a copy of those proceedings as preserved in the Shelby County Leader of the week following the banquet, June, 1898.

Mr. Moulton never was blessed with children of his own, but he has educated a number of boys and girls. He lives in a beautiful home at the south end of Broadway, in comfort and elegance, having a large library with which he can indulge his excellent literary taste, and spend the larger part of his time. He was always a great student, and took more pleasure in unraveling a knotty question of law than most people do in reading the most exciting romances or biography.

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HON. ANTHONY THORNTON.

In preparing the biography of Mr. Thornton, as a member of the Shelby County Bar, for a book like the one now offered to the public, the space being limited, it becomes a difficult problem to decide what to omit.

His career covers nearly the entire history of the county, and no important event has ever occurred here in which he did not take a part, and every old citizen knows him well, most of the younger men have seen him all their lives. His life embraces the period of all the other members of the Bar, and is interwoven with all their acts, and in many ways is closely connected with every family.

I shall use much that I had occasion to prepare for another purpose, knowing that the mass of readers of this book may have no opportunity of ever seeing the other.

Respect for age and merit is one of the lessons taught more in the past, than in the busy present.

In summarizing the life of Judge Thornton, I have gathered most of the matter from the supreme court reports.

Anthony Thornton in many ways is a very remarkable man.

He is a familiar figure to us all. He has walked these streets for over 65 years.

His voice was heard in our old court house when many who are now old men were "mewling and puking in the nurse's arms."

When our present court house was dedicated he said, "I am with the present, but of the past."

After much persuasion I succeeded in getting the Judge to give me a memorandum of

his life, which I felt his many old friends would like to read, and therefore have made it part of this sketch.

I have prefaced it by a brief analysis of some of his work prepared in connection with the courts.

Of course this is fragmentary and in no way exhaustive and is only intended to keep in memory for his many friends, some of the legal experiences of a long and honorable life, spent in attending to the affairs of his clients in a country town.

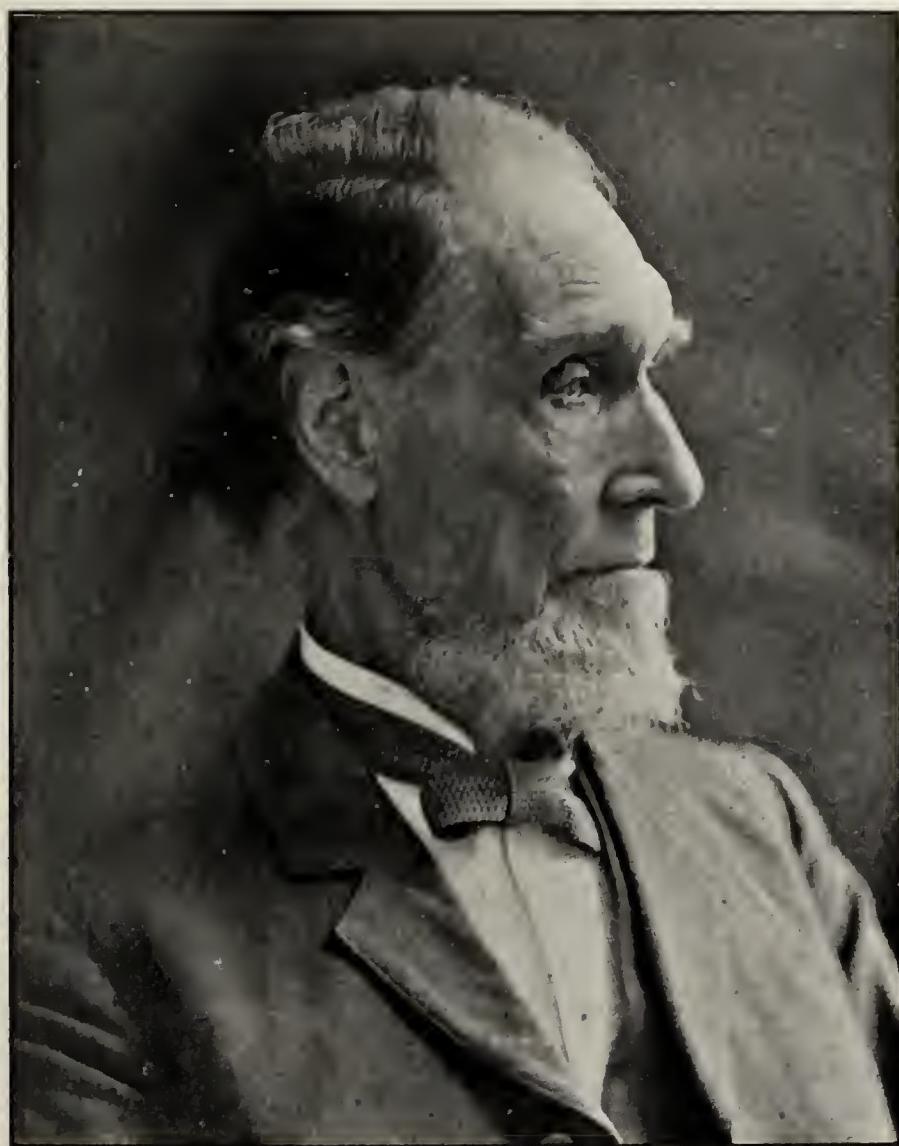
The Judge's career in Shelby County began when the state was unsettled.

To glance forward for another 85 years and contemplate as great changes as he has seen, benumbs the senses and paralyzes the imagination.

When and where will science and art, mechanics and discovery cease their onward march?

The history of a lawyer's life as a lawyer can never be made complete. The labor required in preparing cases for court, the skill used in preparing papers, the knowledge and judgment exercised in examining witnesses, the long preliminary labor of acquiring a thorough knowledge of the laws of the country, the continual training of the mind to understand the ten thousand fine points which arise in an ordinary practice can never be explained or written so that an ordinary man, not experienced in the same line of business, can comprehend even to a small degree the amount of labor and learning which is brought into use upon even trivial cases.

Judge Thornton had the advantage in his early life of having a thorough collegiate education, which made him master of the learning of the day. He was a fine linguist, reading Latin and Greek with ease and a great reader of all the literature of his time. He took unbounded



JUDGE ANTHONY THORNTON.

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delight in reading romance and has in his library all of the writings of all of the best writers preceding or contemporary with him; added to this he was a close student of the law. He has a complete knowledge of the constitution and all of the statutes of the state.

Considering that he lived in a small town and in the agricultural heart of the state, he had as wide experience as ordinarily falls to the lot of a practitioner.

The Judge was an active friend of education and contributed liberally in organizing and promoting the Shelbyville Seminary, at which most of our people obtained a good education prior to the adoption of the common school system.

The Seminary building still stands on Broadway and was used up to a short time ago, as a public school, with very little change from its first construction.

He always had the confidence of the people and in 1863 the county made him its agent to sell bonds to pay bounties to drafted men to fill Shelby County's quota for the war. He handled over \$100,000, without being called upon to give any security whatever.

For his entire service and expense in this matter, covering many months' time, travel to Springfield and elsewhere and the risk of loss and robbery, he charged and was paid the insignificant sum of \$307.

By election, in 1870, Judge Thornton became a member of the Supreme court, and the new court then became composed of Charles B. Lawrence, Pinkney H. Walker, John M. Scott, Sidney Breese, William K. Mailister and Benjamin R. Sheldon, all of whom are now dead except Judge Thornton. The bench thus composed was perhaps the strongest that Illinois ever had. The court soon became famous. Judge

Breese, taking into consideration the length of time he served on the bench and the great legal ability shown in his decisions, never had a superior in this state.

The bar of the State as a rule credited Judge Thornton with being the peer of Judge Breese. He occupied the bench for about four years, and except for resigning from it voluntarily, would have doubtless been retained in that position until the present time.

Judge Thornton gave as a reason for his retiring from this position, that his wife's health was not good and that it was necessary for him to be at home.

Other reasons have been surmised among which was the fact of a newspaper criticism upon the court, for its action in fining the editor of the Chicago Journal several hundred dollars for contempt of court, because the editor had commented severely upon one of the court's decisions relating to a criminal case arising in Cook county.

The paper was published in Chicago and the editor lived there. The decision was made at Ottawa. The comments of the editor were held to be constructive contempt.

The next legislature passed an act which deprived the court of exercising such long-arm powers relating to such matters.

Another reason that has been given for the Judge's retiring from the bench was, that he and Judge Breese were too much alike and could not agree, and both of them were irascible and used very strong language toward each other.

Another reason surmised was that his former partners here at home, under the law that had recently been enacted by which attorneys' fees were allowed by the court in partition cases, had great success in getting such cases, and made a great deal more money than the Judge

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was making, without taking very much of their time, such cases not requiring very much legal ability, and the Judge thought that if he was at home his old clients would return to him, and with his added experience as Judge he could do much better with less labor.

Another reason was that the supreme court was badly overworked at that time, as we then had no Appellate court and the Judge was compelled to work night and day to get rid of his share of the cases. The last was doubtless the most weighty of all the impelling causes.

Whatever the reason may have been, it was undoubtedly a great mistake and a great injury to the profession and to the bench to have a man so well qualified as he, retire from its service.

If he had retained his position, the Appellate court afterwards taking off a large share of the labor, there is no telling how great a Judge he might have become.

While upon the bench he wrote one hundred and eighty-two decisions, reversed one hundred of these cases, and affirmed eighty-two. In addition to this he had to hear and join in considering an equal number of cases that each of the other judges wrote opinions upon.

When we remember all this work was done by himself, without the aid of a stenographer or typewriter, and that in preparing to write a decision he had to read briefs and abstracts frequently covering thousands of pages in each case and examine the authorities cited and write out the opinion, lawyers only can appreciate the vastness of his labors.

We who have examined our own briefs and abstracts and know how much labor it takes to prepare one properly, can give some little estimate of what an immense amount of work he must have performed.

In reading over the cases that he took to the supreme court and in looking over those which he decided as judge, it would seem that it is about an even chance, in taking a case up that you will win. I have examined eighteen cases which he took to the supreme court. He won ten and lost eight, and as before remarked he reversed one hundred and affirmed eighty-two, while on the supreme bench.

The dead and almost forgotten institution of slavery affords an instance of affection for the slave in the Judge's life not infrequent with slave owners, but the instance is known only to a few persons. Several years ago a white haired negro was seen walking around with the Judge. The Judge treated him with the utmost kindness. Those who met him knew him as Uncle Charles. He had been an old house servant at the old home when the Judge was a boy and a strong attachment grew up between them.

The emancipation proclamation and freedom meant nothing to him and he stayed where he had spent a happy life. When too old to work any more the Judge sent him money to pay his way for a visit to Illinois, and while here the higher laws of friendship overcame the prejudice of cast and color, and Uncle Charles was treated as one gentleman treats another.

The visit over, he returned to his home and as long as he lived he was cared for at the Judge's expense, and after death was given a christian burial.

Like most slaves he imitated the character and habits of his masters, and Uncle Charles was always a kind, courteous gentleman.

I have heard it said that when the Judge went to the bench and commenced to write his decisions that he struck a high note in legal learning, and thus by the law of emulation caused the other judges on the bench more carefully to

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prepare their opinions, and by that means elevated the tone and standing of the entire bench. This was easy to Judge Thornton.

His command of language was great, his diction was easy, and he has told me that he rarely re-wrote his sentences in any of his decisions. His statement of a case was always clear, the point involved readily ascertained. His ability to rightly understand any authority cited and apply principles decided to the question before him, made his work a matter of comparative ease. Having fully mastered the briefs and abstracts he could write a decision with much less labor than a man of less learning, experience and ability.

As a practitioner he excelled in defending parties charged with crime and in cases demanding damages.

He was a large man, over six feet high. Had a strong sonorous voice and when fully roused had few equals and no superiors in the state, as an advocate before the jury or a lawyer presenting a case to a court.

He had great skill in examining witnesses, especially a witness who was trying to lie or intending to deceive or who did not want to tell the facts in the case.

For a great many years in his practice in Shelbyville and in the adjoining counties he had great influence with juries. He was in politics a democrat and the counties in which he had most practice were largely democratic, and this may have aided to some extent in obtaining verdicts, as men are more easily influenced by their political faith, than by their religion or other affiliations, but outside of these extrinsic circumstances and even against prejudices when the Judge was at his best, he made such a fight for his clients that he often won the decision against all opposition.

As a specimen of the Judge's perspicuity in stating a proposition, I want to quote one sentence in a case decided when he first went onto the bench, found in 54 Ill.

"When life and liberty are at stake, every circumstance connected with the alleged crime, and which may tend to excuse or palliate the conduct, of the party charged, or explain the motive, should be submitted to the jury."

In a case of the People against George E. Ford decided in 54 Ill., Ford being a lawyer at the time who had swindled a client, in a proceeding to disbar him, Judge Thornton shows his high appreciation of the character which a lawyer ought to have and struck Ford's name from the roll of attorneys from the state of Illinois.

Many of the younger members of the profession and often some of the old ones might read this decision with profit and take the lesson to themselves for the benefit of their clients. The Judge says: "The facts in this case develop a delinquency abhorrent to every honest man, they reveal his wicked intent and disclose the use of a falsehood for the base love of gain. A lawyer assumes high duties and has imposed upon him grave responsibilities. He may be the means of much good or much mischief. Interests of vast magnitude are intrusted to him. Confidence is reposed in him. Life and liberty, character and property should be protected by him. He should guard with careful watchfulness his own reputation as well as that of his profession. The defendant has neglected his duties, betrayed confidence, practiced deceit and turned recreant to virtue.

"He has not alone disgraced himself. He has tarnished the fair fame of a profession always esteemed honorable. He should no more be permitted to minister in the temple of justice. His name should no longer be enrolled on the list

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of those who scorn meanness and abhor falsehood. He who has not an instinctive and unswerving love for truth and honor is not a faithful lawyer."

Since I have known him from 1861 down to the present time, he has rarely attended church anywhere, but in nearly all of his public addresses, and frequently in talking to juries, he speaks in commendatory terms of christianity and in the most vigorous condemnation of hypocrisy.

His habits in life were always extremely temperate. He smokes, but not to excess, and occasionally used the chief product of Kentucky, manufactured into a toddy, with a little mint in it, but never to excess. I never knew or heard of him being intoxicated, and he frequently expressed a hearty contempt for people who make a living by selling adulterated liquors over saloon counters, and against those who license the traffic.

While he is a man of austere appearance, cold and repellent to persons whom he dislikes, or even to strangers, yet, when the crust is broken and one becomes intimate with him, he is exceedingly charming, interesting and sociable, and enjoys life to the highest degree.

He is exceedingly boyish in his tastes, and notwithstanding age, would often go hunting and fishing, and around the campfire in the woods, he was past master of the frying pan, and expert with rifle and shot gun. He was an expert and an ardent disciple of Isaac Walton. At night, after the fishing and hunting were over, he was the life of the occasion around the campfire; would organize a mock court, indicting some of his fellow-hunters for some alleged misdemeanor, appoint some one prosecuting attorney, impanel a jury, and trying the culprit with the forms and ceremonies of court turned into the

most ridiculous shape and circumstances, with some smart fellow for witness, after eloquent speeches for prosecution and defense, the Judge always presiding, would deliver a sentence that would be the talk among the campers for months afterwards, and remembered long by those engaged in it for its genuine mirth and ridiculous solemnity.

The Judge, like most lawyers who were born and raised on a farm, always had an idea that he was a fine farmer, and spent much of the money he made in his practice, in experimenting upon the uncertain results of getting grain out of the soil, or profit out of cattle and hogs. Like most professional men engaged in that kind of business, he probably kept his accounts poorly, and always thought he made money, whether he did or not.

Judge Thornton was a devout follower of Henry Clay in his life time, and a whig of the Clay school until Clay ceased to be a figure in politics, when the Judge became a democrat.

He practiced law with many of the men who gained historic reputation in the state of Illinois. He practiced on the circuit before Sidney Breese, Gustav Koerner, Judge David Davis, Samuel Treat, Judge Gallagher, Rice, Vandever, Welsh, Zane, Phillips, Creighton and many others. He tried cases with Lincoln, Vandever, Ficklin, Oglesby, Ed Baker, Palmer, Stewart, Edwards, Eden and many others whose names are familiar to the older members of the profession.

His life long rival in business at home for nearly fifty years, was Samuel W. Moulton, as hard a working, close thinking, accurate and safe a lawyer as ever practiced in the State of Illinois.

This rivalry helped to make both of them great lawyers, but it was carried beyond emulation in business, and was so bitter that neither

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would consent to the other getting office where it was earned and well deserved. Except when Judge Thornton ran for judge of the supreme court, this feeling was ever dominant.

Save for this, one of these well qualified men, should and would have been circuit judge, instead of inferior men from other counties who profited by their dislikes.

They both went to congress at the same time, but this rivalry did not hurt, as Moulton ran on the republican ticket for the state at large, and Thornton as a democratic candidate in the old tenth district.

Judge Thornton in his practice with Mr. Moulton, was disposed to belittle his opponent, on any position that he might take upon both the law and the facts, but he learned long ago to respect Moulton's opinion in law, and his ability to take care of himself in a law suit.

When these old men were young men in the practice, they rode horseback all over Shelby county and into the adjoining counties; looking through their old books will show that a fee of five dollars for a day or two service, including the horse, was the usual compensation, and that was frequently paid in meat or something to live upon. Either of them probably would have preferred to take and try a case for nothing rather than permit his rival to win a case without an effort. Judge Thornton's nephew and former partner, A. T. Hall, once showed me his old books, showing the accounts which the Judge had made for services rendered for Gen. Wm. F. Thornton, who was the leading man and financier in Shelby county for many years.

These books disclose the fact that a fee of from two dollars and a half to ten dollars for foreclosing a mortgage, was the amount that compensated a great lawyer in those days.

Judge Thornton was in partnership with Anthony Hall, his nephew, Geo. T. Wendling, the

famous platform orator, H. J. Hamlin, B. F. Wilson, Wm. J. Lloyd, Judge Hess, W. O. Wallace and Wm. Ragan, at different times, but all of his partnerships were of short duration.

At one time he moved to the city of Decatur, where he remained two or three years in partnership with a couple of young men of that city.

At another time he gave up his old practice and moved to his old home in Kentucky. He engaged, in the last year of the war, in an unfortunate enterprise, in the woolen business, by which he lost twenty or thirty thousand dollars.

He was a man of peculiar disposition, and it was owing probably to some of his weaknesses that he failed to reach the altitude of greatness to which his talent and ability entitled him.

He was in his prime about the time the war began, and if his heart and feelings had permitted him to follow the lead of Stephen A. Douglas, or join with such men as Gen. Palmer and Gen. John A. Logan, Mr. Lincoln, who knew him well and recognized his great ability, would doubtless have been glad to have had his assistance, and he could have given the judge such an office or place, and preferment, that his great power could have been used for his country's welfare, and his name would have been forever among the other patriots who did so much in that time of great trial to the country, to save it from destruction.

Judge Thornton is a very remarkable man, now past eighty-six years of age, and in the active and remunerative practice of his chosen profession.

While his physical strength is lessened by age, his mental powers are still strong, and when interested in a matter under his charge, his mind seems to be as vigorous as it was forty years ago, and his voice rings out strong, steady and clear, and he is verily the "old man eloquent."

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Few men of the state of Illinois, or anywhere have been before the public as long as Judge Thornton, and Judge Moulton is his close second. These men have been in Shelby county, one of them since 1836, sixty-six years, and the other since 1850, and both in active employment in public business.

On June 10, 1898, the life-sized portraits of Judges Thornton and Moulton were unveiled in the court house in Shelbyville.

I here give you some extracts from a sketch, written by the Judge himself, after he was past eighty-two years of age:

My ancestors, both parental and maternal, were from England. They emigrated to Virginia early in 1600. I recollect my grandfather very well, for I lived with him for a number of years. My grandfather and my father had the same christian name, Anthony, which has descended to me. They were planters in Virginia, as they were called in those days. Among my grandfather's old papers I have seen a good many consignments of tobacco to Liverpool, and returned invoices of family stores in payment.

My grandfather and my father with their families migrated from Virginia to Kentucky in the year 1808. The entire party, including whites and negroes, numbered ninety-nine. They came over the mountains in wagons, carriages, and on horseback. They left Caroline County, Virginia, on the 5th of October, 1808, and reached Bourbon County, Kentucky, on the 16th day of November, 1808, making the journey in forty-two days.

My grandfather was born in Caroline County, Virginia, on the 18th day of February, 1748, and died in 1830. He was twice married; had one son by his first wife, and ten children, five boys and five girls, by his last wife, whose maiden name was Mary Rootis. He was first mar-

ried in 1768, before he was twenty-one years of age.

He had the title of colonel. I have now in my possession a commission, dated April 1st, 1785, signed by Patrick Henry, then governor of Virginia, appointing him "County Lieutenant of the militia of Caroline County." The commission bears the genuine signature of Patrick Henry, the greatest orator of "Old Virginia." It is printed on rough, coarse paper without the seal of the state. A wafer is used for a seal. This was before Virginia had adopted her present seal, with the proud motto, "Sic Semper Tyrannis."

When the large party of ninety-nine reached the fertile lands of Kentucky, a settlement was made in Nicholas county. Afterwards my grandfather purchased about five hundred acres of land lying in Bourbon and Harrison counties, within two and a half miles of Ruddel's Mills. When I was a boy there were numerous distilleries for the manufacture of whisky around there, and I have often heard it said that there was some peculiarity in the water of a certain spring near Ruddel's Mills from which the best and purest whisky in Kentucky was made. I lived on the above farm after my father's death for about twelve years.

My father bought a farm on Cane Ridge, in Bourbon county, six miles east of Paris, the county seat. There he lived until his death. My father was born in Virginia on the 24th day of December, 1775, so that he was a child at the time of our great struggle for National Independence. He was a native of Caroline county.

My mother, whose maiden name was Mary Towles, was born in Spotsylvania county, Virginia, on the 29th day of March, 1777. They were married in Spotsylvania county, on the 16th of April, 1802. They had ten children, of whom I am the only survivor. My father died on his farm on the 20th day of November, 1819, in the

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vigor of his manhood, when he was only forty-four years of age. At that time a virulent fever prevailed in Kentucky, of which he died. My mother died on the 14th of July, 1820, in giving birth to a child which never saw either father or mother. At the death of my father and mother they left eight living children, five boys and three girls. The boys and the youngest girls were taken to my grandfather's; the two oldest girls went to live with Judge Mills in Paris, Kentucky, who married my father's sister. Thus a numerous and happy family was separated by the ruthless hand of death, never to be re-united in this world.

My sister, Elizabeth Smith, married Benjamin Keiningham of Paris, Kentucky, a merchant. They left two children. My sister, Catharine Presley, married John W. Hall, a Presbyterian minister, a fine scholar and an eloquent preacher. They left three children. My brother, Thomas Towles, married Rebecca Warfield of Lexington, Kentucky. He left one child, a daughter. He was a promising young lawyer of Paris, but died in the vigor of manhood, with a brilliant future before him. Truly, how inscrutable are the ways of Providence! My brother, John Rootes, died in 1875. He left one son. I have three living and one dead. All the rest of my brothers and sisters died without any children surviving them. We were widely separated in life, but have the hope of a happy reunion in a better world.

I was born on my father's farm, six miles east of Paris, on the 9th day of November, 1814. I was, therefore, five years and eleven days old at the time of his death, and in about seven months thereafter, when my mother died, six of the children were taken to my grandfather's. I cannot remember my mother, but have a distinct recollection of my father.

I can recollect him on horseback and about the house. He was a tall and spare man, with fair and ruddy complexion and brown hair. He was a good scholar, and wrote a fair and legible hand. I have some of his books in which his name is written. His farm was in the heart of the beautiful and fertile blue grass region of Kentucky. With a loved wife and numerous children, his future was bright for happiness and wealth. But cruel death darkened the happy home, and severed the sacred ties of husband and wife, and father and children.

At five years of age I was taken from my childhood's home. I labored on the farm; plowed, cut grain with the sickle, cut wood, and performed other work until I was about sixteen. At my grandfather's death he left his farm to Aunt Lucy during her life. I continued to live with her, and went occasionally to a country school. In my boyhood the schools in the country were kept in houses built of hewn logs; the floor was laid with puncheons, logs split; and the benches on which we sat were also of puncheons. There were no windows, but a log was cut out to give light. I had only two teachers in my earliest schooling. One was a Presbyterian minister, who supplemented his meagre salary with the pittance he obtained by teaching. The other was a candidate for the ministry, and taught school to obtain money to aid him in the theological studies. The latter teacher was a good man, and a good scholar, but a great oddity. He was rigid in discipline and used the rod, or switch, on all occasions. I had my skin often cut and bruised, and welts made on me that did not disappear for weeks. The boys would frequently trick him in regard to the switches. Our school house was in a dense wood where grew a great many trees called iron-wood. These trees had long, tapering switches as tough as whalebone. The teacher would send the boys

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to procure switches, and they with a keen knife would carefully cut the switches every few inches, so that with the first stroke they would break into a number of pieces. The teacher always opened and closed school with prayer.

I lived on my grandfather's farm from 1820 until 1831; labored on the farm and attended school until I had acquired the rudiments of an English education and a smattering of Latin. There were always ten white persons in the family until my grandfather's death, and about one hundred Negroes. There were only eight rooms in the house, and I have often thought, in mind, of the family, and company almost constant, how so many people could be cared for and bedded in so small a house. The Negroes, of course, occupied their own cabins. From Christmas Eve until New Year's day the house was always well filled, and joy and feasting were the order of the holiday. We had indeed a joyous time to which memory often fondly recurs. The Negroes did not labor during the holidays, and they had, consequently, a good time. I can never forget the "corn shuckings." A good supper and a dram of pure whisky awaited the end of the work. The Negro is naturally musical, and on these occasions the singing was grand and melodious.

We had a peculiar mode of threshing grain. A circular track was made smooth and firm; the wheat, rye or oats were put upon it, and then the boys would mount a horse and lead four, two on each side. Round and round they would go until the grain was threshed. Upon the removal of the straw, the ground was covered with the grain.

Our sugar making, too, was glorious fun. My grandfather had a sugar orchard of over one thousand trees. The sweet water, the glowing furnace with a dozen large kettles bub-

bling, the delicious syrup, the ash pone, and broiled bacon, made a grand sight and a glorious feast.

"Ah! happy years! once more who would not be a boy?"

While rigid obedience was exacted of the Negro in the early days of slavery, he was treated with kindness and consideration; was well fed and well clothed, and well cared for in sickness. All the house servants regularly attended prayers, morning and evening. Every Sunday both whites and blacks went to a Presbyterian church at Ruddel's Mills, and remained for the forenoon services. The Sunday school for whites was in the morning, and for the Negroes in the afternoon. Slavery was then in its mildest form, and its mischiefs affected the white more than the black race.

With an abundance of work, and hunting and fishing, (we had a good supply of game), I became a robust boy, and was almost fully grown at 16 years of age. Kentuckians at that time constituted an unusually tall race. I went to school with a number of girls who were six feet in height. We hunted a great deal at night, principally coons and opossums.

But my boyhood days abruptly ended. I was determined to obtain an education, if possible. My share in my father's estate was not large; indeed barely enough to afford me an education. My guardian, John Rootis Thornton, of Paris, Kentucky, a good man and a good lawyer, insisted that I should engage as a clerk in a store, and thus fit myself for the mercantile business. I demurred to such an arrangement. With dogged persistence I claimed that a thorough education would fit me for any position, and I was willing to expend my patrimony to procure it. I probably should have failed in my desire but for the intercession of my sister, Catharine, who then lived in Tennessee, and was on

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a visit to Kentucky. She said there was a most excellent preparatory school where she lived, and, if I would go and live with her she would board me and make no charge, so that I should have the expense of clothing and tuition only. Hence in June, 1831, I took the old stage coach at Paris and traveled alone, night and day, to my sister's in Gallatin, Tennessee. I lived there in 1831 and part of 1832; attended a fine school preparatory to going to a college at Nashville, Tennessee, but finally determined, with the consent of a guardian, to go to Danville, Kentucky, to a college called Center College. I was there something over a year, and in the latter part of 1833 I made a change again and went to Oxford, Ohio, to the Miami University, where I graduated and received a diploma in September, 1834.

I had a happy time in Tennessee. I visited the Hermitage and greatly enjoyed the beautiful scenery of the Cumberland river. I had an agreeable time at college with both teachers and pupils. When I graduated, I was a good Latin and Greek scholar, and could read both German and French.

After graduation I went back to Paris, Kentucky, and commenced the study of law with my uncle, John R. Thornton. On the 23rd of August, 1836, I obtained a license to practice law from George Robertson and Thomas A. Marshall, Judges of the Court of Appeals of Kentucky. They examined me for three separate days before they would grant me a license.

In October, 1836, I left Kentucky and started to settle in Missouri. When I got to St. Louis, I remembered I had an aunt in Sangamon county, Illinois, and thought I would go and see her. I took a boat at St. Louis and went up the Illinois river to Meredosia, and there I rode on the first railroad, made with a flat iron bar for a rail, and pulled by two mules, which brought me to Jacksonville, Illinois. Then I took

a stage to Springfield, and visited my aunt for a week or two. There I heard of General Thornton and his family living in Shelbyville, and concluded I would visit them, as I had never seen them before. So in October, 1836, I came to Shelbyville, Illinois, and as there was only one lawyer here, Daniel Gregory, who afterwards died in Vandalia, I concluded to abandon the trip to Missouri, and settled in Shelbyville, and I have been a citizen of this place with the exception of a few years up to the present time.

The sessions of the legislature of Illinois were then held in Vandalia, and in December, 1836, I went from Shelbyville to Vandalia to see the legislature and supreme court, and there on the 13th of December, 1836, I obtained a license to practice law from Thomas C. Brown and William Wilson, two Judges of the Supreme court. I remained in Vandalia about a month, and I saw Mr. Lincoln for the first time, also O. B. Hicklin, Usher F. Linder, Orville B. Browning, of Quincy, Illinois, General Ewing, Jefferson Gatewood, and a number of other distinguished men of the state at that time.

During the time I spent at Vandalia, there was gambling all over the town every night, and sometimes during the day; poker playing, roulette tables, and almost every device for gambling, and liquor was sold everywhere. To me this was a novel scene, for I had never witnessed the like in my life before. Just before I left Vandalia a severe epidemic prevailed which affected the throat, and was fatal in a great many instances. I became somewhat alarmed and anxious to get away, but it was impossible to get any conveyance from Vandalia. There were no railroads, and only a wagon carrying the mail twice a week from Vandalia to Shelbyville. Just about the time I was so anxious to get away, in January, 1837, a heavy rainfall came, and the whole country was a sheet of ice three or four inches

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thick, so that it was almost impossible to travel. At last to my great joy, a gentleman now living in Mattoon, Ebenezer Noyes, reached Vandalia from St. Louis, riding a little pony. He was a merchant on Whitley creek in what is now Moultrie county, Illinois. He had been to St. Louis to buy goods, and having formed his acquaintance at Shelbyville, as soon as I met him, I persuaded him to try and bring me home. He said he would do so, and he went into the woods and cut some hickory poles, and with them and a goods box, made a sled. We fixed up a harness, and he and I rode home to Shelbyville on that box, pulled by the pony, on the solid ice all the way.

After my return from Vandalia I opened an office in Shelbyville and commenced the practice of law. There was no other lawyer here at the time but Daniel Gregory, and, of course, I had one side of every case. There was a good deal of litigation of a small character, and the fees would range from \$2.50 to \$25, but rarely the latter sum.

The first judge before whom I practiced was Sydney Breese, who lived at Carlyle, and who was afterwards for over twenty years upon the supreme bench, and a member of the United States Senate from Illinois. He was a fine scholar, a profound lawyer, a model judge. I have not known any man who presided in the court house with such ease and dignity, readiness and learning. The other judges who held court during my early practice were Judge Treat, Judge Underwood, Judge Koerner, Judge David Davis, Judge Constable, Judge Harlan, Judge Wilson, Judge Shields, and Judge Emerson. They were all good lawyers and highly honorable men.

The principal lawyers at the bar in my early practice were Usher F. Linder and O. B. Ficklin, of Charleston; A. B. Field, Ferris Foreman and

Levi Davis, of Vandalia; Charles Emerson, Kirby Benedict, Seth Post and Brower Bunn, of Decatur; James M. Davis, generally called "Long Jim," and E. Y. Rice, of Hillsboro; Judge Vandever, of Taylorville; Edward D. Baker, of Springfield, and occasionally Mr. Lincoln would come to Shelbyville. I also met him on the circuit almost every spring and fall for a great many years.

From 1836 until about 1846 we rode to all the courts on horseback. There were scarcely any public highways and we would strike through the country from timber to timber, and, rosin weed in the prairie, which pointed north if it was cloudy, we would then be guided by the and south. There were few law books in the country at that time. In some of the towns where the courts were held, there were really no books, and the lawyers would carry in their saddle bags some work upon evidence or pleading, and we argued cases entirely upon principle. The lawyers whom I have named, and others, were all well read in the law, highly honorable gentlemen, courteous to each other, and the life on the circuit with such men was very enjoyable. Lincoln, Linder, and Ficklin were great story tellers, and, after the adjournment of court in the evening, they would entertain the crowd by telling stories almost every night until past midnight.

When I commenced the practice of law in this state, the only report of the adjudged cases was a small volume by Judge Breese. Afterwards Mr. Foreman of Vandalia, published a small volume of the reports. The statutes were, however, few and easily understood, but we had no reports to guide us until Mr. Scammon commenced the publication of Scammon's Reports.

It will thus be seen that at this early period in the history of the state the law was administered, not upon adjudicated cases, but upon the principles in the elementary books. In the argu-

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ments before the court no judge ever inquired for a case in point, but the principles of the common law were applied to the facts as they were developed by the testimony; hence the practice was much easier than at present, and the labor less, if the lawyer was well versed in the principles of common law.

I have been a resident of Illinois for over sixty years. I was always a whig in politics until 1856. My first vote was for General Harrison in 1840. That was a memorable campaign. "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" was the slogan everywhere. The people seemed wild. They would go from meeting to meeting, and from county to county in immense crowds. Wagons were to be seen everywhere along the roads, drawn by six and eight yoke of oxen, and filled with bright, pretty girls; in the middle a log cabin, and at the end a barrel of cider, free to all.

I was an active speaker in the campaign of 1840 for Harrison; in the campaign of 1844 for Clay; in the campaign of 1848 for Taylor; and in the campaign of 1852 for Scott.

In June, 1856, I made an appointment to pronounce my first democratic speech in the old court house in Shelbyville. There were but few republicans in Shelby county at that time. Slavery, and, intimately connected with it, the Nebraska bill, was the principal question for discussion. A committee waited upon me and requested a joint discussion, to which I assented. On the appointed day Mr. Lincoln appeared. I had then known him well for many years. As it was my meeting, and, as a matter of courtesy, I consented that Mr. Lincoln should open the discussion. He commenced at 2 o'clock and spoke until nearly 5. He knew he was addressing people who sympathized with the south, and he made a most ingenious and plausible speech. He, however, spoke so very long that I became apprehensive as to any effort I might make to a

wearied crowd. I began my reply by telling one of Mr. Lincoln's stories, and thus obtained the attention of the crowd, and made a short speech. The meeting was a pleasant one. We parted with the kindest feelings, and that was the last public speech I ever heard Mr. Lincoln make.

In 1860 I was one of the democratic electors, and had thirteen joint discussions with Leonard Swett, then of Bloomington, and who afterwards died in Chicago. He was the fairest, ablest, most pleasant and courteous gentleman I ever encountered in public discussion.

I knew all the governors of the state from James Duncan in 1836 to the present time. The first appointment I ever had was from Governor Carlin. He appointed me as major in the militia.

Early life in Illinois was rough, but pleasant. The people were generous and hospitable; free and easy in their manners; rough in dress, but honest and honorable in all their dealings. There was very little crime. Fights were frequent, but no pistol, knife, club, or deadly weapon was ever used. The fist and the foot were the only agents to revenge a fancied insult. When the fight was over, and no person seriously injured, reconciliation ensued, and a drink of whisky all around sealed the peace.

From 1836 to almost the year 1850 we had frequent "house raisings" and "barn raisings," and wolf hunts, and horse racing, and sport of every character. We would often collect to the number of from one to two hundred and kill squirrels; meet at noon and barbecue them, and a luscious feast was the result. The squirrels were so numerous that we were compelled to kill them to save the corn from destruction. We used only the rifle. On one of these hunts I killed fifty-two squirrels one morning in the section east of Shelbyville. Deer, turkey, and prairie chickens were in great abundance. I

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have seen fifty deer in a drove, and gangs of wolves to the number of a dozen or more.

From about 1838 to 1870 I had a regular deer hunt every fall, when we would camp in the woods from ten days to a month. At the "raisings," which were attended by the neighbors for ten miles around, we had a substantial dinner and supper, and the old couplet was sung and practiced:

"We'll dance all night
Till broad day-light,
And go home with the gals in the morning."

When I located in Shelbyville it contained about two hundred people. Large oak stumps stood in the public square now fronting our court house. In front of the First National bank building was a ravine of the depth of at least fifteen feet. On the lot where the bank building now stands there was an old horse mill. The plat of Crane and Stevenson's addition was a forest covered with beautiful and magnificent elms and sugar trees. I have often killed squirrels there, and for years we used the beautiful grove for meetings on the 4th of July, and barbecues, which were frequent. The entire town was from Brewster's hill west to the residences of Conn Brothers, and from Second street north to Second street south. All the business houses, taverns and saloons were around the square. The houses were built mostly of logs. Captain John Tackett kept tavern in a log house where the "Tallman" is now situated. Renben Wright, father of William and David Wright, kept tavern in a log house on the corner west of the present court house. It seems a dreary and dismal place to look back upon in view of the progress since those days. Yet we enjoyed life. There were a goodly number of young people of both sexes, ready for a ride, a frolic, or a dance. Though I never had any ear for music, and never could

tell one tune from another, and must be condemned to the ban pronounced by Shakespeare—

"The man that hath no music in himself
Nor is not moved with concord of sweet
sounds,
Is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils,"—

yet I attended all the gatherings, and walked through the dances. At one time I was dancing with Mrs. Lufkin, then Miss Lucia Smith, and one of our brightest girls, when the string of the fiddle broke; I kept right on without any music, though all the dancers had stopped, until the general laugh at my expense made me realize the situation. The music had no effect on me.

Notwithstanding the hunts and frolics, I devoted a large part of every day to the study of my profession. I had voluntarily chosen this profession with the fixed determination to make a good lawyer of myself. To what extent I may have succeeded, my clients and contemporaries must answer. I am not vain enough to suppose that posterity will trouble itself very much as to my character as a lawyer.

I do not think it is assumption to say that I feel, after a continuous practice of nearly sixty years, I have made a safe, successful, and reliable lawyer. For more than half a century I have been a close student for sixteen hours a day, read faithfully, and pondered intently the principles of the common law. My aim has ever been to comprehend fully the case presented, examine it carefully, apply well-known principles to the facts, and then give an opinion. Hence, I have rarely failed of success in the suits I have brought. It is not only a blunder, but a crime, to advise a client into litigation when a favorable result is not apparent. Thus influenced, and with numerous good friends from the beginning

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of my humble career, my success in suits, and the retention of clients, have been eminently satisfactory.

In our early practice we "rode the circuit," as it was called. For a number of years we rode on horse-back from county to county. Afterward, when we had acquired money enough to buy a buggy, and the roads had become somewhat improved, we traveled the "circuit" in buggies. The lawyers I almost uniformly met in some of the counties in which I attended the courts, were A. P. Field of Vandalia, "Long Jim" Davis of Hillsboro, Linder and Ficklin of Charleston, Emerson, Benedict, Post and Bunn of Decatur, and Lincoln. In the eastern counties, Constable of Marshall, and Dan Vorhees of Terre Haute generally attended. In some of the counties we occasionally had Judge Rice of Hillsboro and Levi Davis of Vandalia. I attended, for several terms of court, in eleven counties—Bond, Montgomery, Fayette, Effingham, Shelby, Christian, Moultrie, Macon, Piatt, Coles and Edgar.

Of all the lawyers whom I ever met, Lincoln was the most marked for his fairness and honesty. He was always earnest and forcible, and could manage and present a good case with as much power and clearness as any man I ever saw.

This traveling on the circuit was very pleasant. The lawyers were genial, and the "very pink of courtesy." The mode of life had so much variety as to preclude monotony. We met new faces every week; were often entertained with racy incidents, and were encountered with novel and laughable cases. There was no attempt at display in dress, but everybody wore plain clothes, adapted to the rough life on the frontier. Speaking of dress reminds me of a circumstance when I first came to Illinois. In Kentucky young men, who could afford, were in-

clined to be fond of dress. When I came west, I had only a few hundred dollars, some law books, and a dress suit of blue cloth, with bright gilt buttons. My shirts were all ruffled, that is, a piece of fine muslin, gathered in folds, was sewed on the bosom of each shirt, and protruded about an inch outside the vest. When I saw the plain clothing of the people, the linsey-woolsey dresses of the women, and the coon-skin caps, the buck-skin and jean breeches and coats of the men, I cut off my gilt buttons and ruffles, and adapted my dress to the conditions around me.

In those early days it is almost incredible how well we fared as to eating. Meals were, generally, twelve and one-half cents each, and horse feed in proportion. We had venison, wild turkey, and prairie chicken in abundance, and the sweetest bacon, made from the masts in the woods. Hogs were often killed without having been fed a grain of corn. Provision for sleeping was the worst. Two persons in one bed, three or four beds in one room, and often pallets on the floor, were common.

I might write pages in regard to these by-gone days, interesting to me from their reminiscences, but I must hasten on to some brief reference to my legal battles. I have always had the good fortune to secure an extensive practice, and can never forget the kindness, friendship, and support of the people of Shelby and adjoining counties.

My first murder case was over fifty years ago. Robert Sellers killed James Rodman on the Vandalia road, about five miles west of Shelbyville. It is said the grass never grew on the spot where the body was found. There was no eye witness to the killing, yet the prosecution made a strong case. E. D. Baker, of Springfield, assisted me in defense. He was killed at Ball's Bluff in Virginia during the Civil war.

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Baker was a most eloquent advocate. The jury found the defendant guilty of murder. Judge Treat presided. He was a tender-hearted man, and a fine lawyer. He wrote a brief sentence of condemnation, and, in the attempt to read it, speech utterly failed him for a time, and his eyes were filled with tears. The motion for a new trial having been overruled, a writ of error was prosecuted to the Supreme court, and the judgment was reversed for the reason that one of the jurors had formed and expressed an opinion before he was taken on the venire, that the defendant was guilty. A rather anomalous proceeding in criminal jurisprudence then ensued. Between the time of the killing and the reversal, the legislature passed a law punishing the crime of manslaughter by imprisonment in the penitentiary for a term not exceeding eight years. A new indictment was found after the reversal, a "nolle" entered as to the old indictment; Sellers pleaded guilty to the new indictment, and was sentenced to the penitentiary for the term of seven years. There was no saving clause in the new statute as to offenses previously committed. This occurred in 1842. In 1844 Josiah Sanbourne, one of the ablest prosecutors in criminal cases I ever knew in the state, and Justin Butterfield, a prominent lawyer of Chicago, made a motion for a writ of habeas corpus to bring Sellers before the Supreme court. The court rendered a singular opinion to the effect that the prisoner was in the penitentiary by a voluntary contract on his part, and he was remanded to prison.

I had another interesting criminal case in my early practice which arose in Shelbyville. Captain Mathew Duncan, a brother of Governor Duncan, killed Thomas Lewis. They were both residents of Shelbyville. Duncan was a merchant. Lewis often became intoxicated, and, when under the influence of liquor, was one of

the most quarrelsome and disagreeable men I ever knew. Duncan was standing on his counter arranging some goods on the upper shelves, when Lewis came into the store, and commenced pulling at the feet and legs of Duncan. A yard stick was lying on the counter, and Duncan seized it and struck Lewis on the side of the head, just above the ear. At this point the skull is very thin, and the blow fractured it. The broken pieces pressed on the brain. Lewis instantly fell; was soon in a comatose condition; lingered for forty-eight hours, and then died. Nothing prior to the death, was done to relieve the pressure upon the brain.

Duncan was indicted. I defended him, and he was acquitted. My defense was malpractice. A post-mortem examination was made, and it was found that the fractured bone and the coagulated blood made so great a pressure on the brain as to cause death. The concurrent testimony of the surgeons was that, if the trephining process had been resorted to at any time within twenty-four hours, and the pressure relieved, the man would have been alive. The principle insisted upon was that the blow was not necessarily fatal, and only became so from sheer neglect.

On one evening I came home from the "circuit" and met General Thornton, who was then a merchant in Shelbyville. He said to me: "Your absence has lost you a case." He then informed me that he had arrested a man for stealing some beeswax and a bridle, and he was now in jail. The criminal sent for me the same evening, and I undertook his defense. In those days beeswax was pretty good money. There was no mark on the beeswax, and every merchant had some of it. There was, therefore, no identification of the beeswax as the property of Gen. Thornton, but the proof was pretty strong as to his ownership of the bridle. I, however, proved that other merchants had similar bridles. There

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was no proof of the actual taking, yet a case of strong suspicion was made out against the prisoner. I had selected an unusually intelligent jury, and I have thought I had an inspiration as to the character of the defense. General Thornton was, of course, a witness, and as such he was so uncontrollable that he prejudiced the jury against him.

I conceded in the argument to the jury that there was moral or probable guilt, but insisted it would be a dangerous precedent to convict. I emphasized the old maxim of the law, "It is better that ninety and nine guilty persons should escape, than that one innocent man suffer." The jury acquitted the prisoner. General Thornton remained in the court room, and I saw that he was excited, and was talking to the lawyers around him. I was told afterward that he said he would give one hundred dollars for the privilege of thirty minutes in which to reply to me. The reply would have been a severe one. He paraphrased the maxim to which I referred, and said it ought to be: "It is better that ninety-nine innocent men hang, than one rascal escape." I got a beautiful bay mare for my fee.

A man killed another in Moultrie county. He was arrested and placed in jail. I took him before Judge Emerson by writ of habeas corpus. He heard the evidence, and remanded him to jail. The killing was by shooting with a rifle. Only one witness saw the shooting. She testified the prisoner was twenty-five feet distant from the man shot; that he deliberately took aim and fired, and that there was a blaze on the woolen coat as the gun fired. There was also proof that the ball struck the man in the breast and tended upwards, and that the prisoner had several severe cuts on his back, done with some sharp instrument. After the indictment I took a change of venue to Coles county, and Usher F. Linder aided me in the defense. My exper-

ience with the rifle assisted me very much in preparing for the trial. From the small quantity of powder used in a rifle, I concluded the woman's story as to the distance between the men at the time of the killing was untrue; and from the cuts on the back and the tendency of the ball, that the men were in close contact, and engaged in a fight at the time of shooting. To verify my theory, I engaged three men, expert with the rifle, and obtained a rifle, of the same calibre as the one used by the prisoner; used the same quantity of powder, and the same patching, a piece of oiled buckskin; hung up a woolen coat on a tree, and experimented frequently in shooting at it. The coat was never burned except when we fired within about a foot of it.

This proof was submitted to the jury, and my man was acquitted. He only agreed to pay me one hundred and fifty dollars, but he was so pleased with the result he gave me a bag containing three hundred dollars in gold and silver.

A case of the greatest notoriety, and one which created more excitement throughout the country, than any other I was ever engaged in, was the Emma Bond rape case. Three men were arrested for an alleged rape of her in the loft of the school house in Christian county, in which she was employed in teaching school. Her story was that, upon the dismissal of the school, she remained to sweep out, and, as she had the dust near the door, one man threw a shawl over her head, and, with the assistance of a man above, she was hoisted into the loft, and there the rape was committed, and she was left unconscious until late in the night, when she went to the house of Mrs. Pettis. She was taken to her father's the same night by young Pettis, who, with John Montgomery and an Italian, were arrested for the crime.

I attended the preliminary examination in Taylorville which continued for several days. On

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the last day there was an immense crowd of rough, angry and scowling men in the court room. The pressure was so great that a substantial railing between the bar for the court and lawyers, and the audience room, was broken down. I was satisfied that a mob was contemplated, and I took the first train for a more quiet region. Though Emma Bond did not appear, and without her testimony the proof was slight, yet the three men were bound over to court. The excitement was so intense that the justice would have been mobbed, had he released them.

Sure enough, according to my fears, a large and furious mob gathered in Taylorville on the night following the close of the preliminary examination, and broke into the jail. Having tied a rope around the neck of each prisoner, after numerous threats and much violence, Montgomery protested vigorously his innocence, was suspended in mid-air by use of a limb of one of the trees, until he was entirely unconscious, and it was some time before he could be restored. This caused a reaction in the mob, and the accused were returned to jail.

An indictment was preferred, and the defendants took a change of venue to Montgomery county.

All persons assembled in Hillsboro ready for the battle. Judge Phillips presided. Besides the able State's Attorney John G. Drennan, the lawyers in the prosecution were Judge Edwards of Springfield, Judge Vandever and James B. Rocks of Taylorville, and several others. The lawyers for the defense were McBride and McGaskill of Taylorville, and myself. We were fortunate in the selection of a most excellent jury. On the opening of the court on the first day the court room was a jam, and the crowd continued every day during the whole trial which lasted for over five weeks.

There were several hundred witnesses, and

persons attended the trial from all the adjoining counties and from other states. Nearly every paper in St. Louis and Chicago had reporters who sent daily full reports of the progress of the trial. In the inception of the trial, and for several weeks, we had to battle against a bitter sentiment. This was manifest from the open applause whenever the judge ruled against the defendants. It was manifest from the scowling looks whenever the attorneys for the defendants gained a point. It was manifest from the constant rumors of mob violence every night. It was manifest from the daily anonymous letters to John Montgomery and myself, containing threats of every character. Judge Phillips heard of the letters to me, and, thinking that so many letters might affect me, directed the postmaster to put my letters in his box, and he handed me a number of threatening letters after the trial ended. In the beginning the judge was strongly against the defendants, but he changed as the trial progressed.

We began the trial in November, and held court every day, and frequently at night, until after Christmas, except Sundays and on Christmas day.

During this exciting and protracted trial, I examined and cross-examined every witness, made all the legal arguments to the jury, and ended my labors in a speech of four hours to the jury. On the next day after the trial I was in Springfield, and delivered a memorial address before the State Bar-association upon the death of the lamented Chief Justice Lawrence.

But I must hasten with my sketch, and give a brief resume of my career in other respects.

I was first married to Mildred Thornton, a daughter of General Thornton, in the year 1852. She died on the 24th day of September, 1856. The issue of this marriage was two child-

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ren, William Towles, who is still living, and Anthony, who died on the 13th of July, 1873.

I was married to my present wife, whose maiden name was Kate H. Smith, on the 30th day of August, 1866, at Mrs. Reed's, near Springfield, Ohio. She was the daughter of Addison Smith, an excellent and well-remembered teacher in pioneer days. We have two children, Katharine Presley, now married to Harry C. Frankenfield of the U. S. Weather Bureau, now stationed in St. Louis, a lovely and intelligent woman, the pride of her parents; and a son, Lewis Walker, who left New York on June 3rd, 1896, on the ship, *St. Louis*, for Southampton, and thence to Cape Town, South Africa.

My wife has ever been to me a loving and dutiful wife, in sickness and sorrow, as well as in prosperity. I owe to her a happy home.

I have not only succeeded in my profession; have been fortunate in making friends; and in my domestic relations; but have been equally fortunate in all attempts to obtain official position.

I was, more than half a century ago, one of the trustees of the village of Shelbyville, served for several terms. In the beginning of the Mexican war I was a major in the militia of Shelby and several adjoining counties, and I made a number of speeches urging enlistments. Such was the furor in Shelby in favor of the war, that one company was formed and accepted, and we rapidly made up another composed of one hundred men, all six feet in height or over, and I was chosen captain. We drilled daily for several weeks, and were under pretty good discipline, when we received word from the governor that the quota was filled, and our company would not be accepted. So ended my military career.

My first attempt for any office was as a candidate for membership in the convention to

revise the constitution of 1818. The election occurred in the spring of 1847. The district was composed of the counties of Shelby and Moultrie. My opponent was General Peter Warren of Shelby. He had been in the state senate for twelve years, and had never been defeated for any office. I traveled on horseback to nearly every house in the two counties. Then the voters required that the candidate should visit them. We also had frequent public gatherings at which we addressed the people. I took with me in my saddle bags the journal of the senate, and for the first time exposed Warren's votes. He became so sore about these votes that, in Moultrie, near the close of the campaign, he proposed to go home if I would cease to use the journals. I told him I could not throw away my entire capital. So I continued the fight, and the result was, I was elected by over eight hundred majority.

The convention met in Springfield on the 7th day of June, 1847, and adjourned on the 31st day of August, 1847. The constitution we formed was adopted by the people at an election on the first Monday of March, 1848. It was an admirable instrument, and well adapted to the condition of Illinois at that time. Her treasury was bankrupt; her credit gone; her bonds were unsalable; her banks were insolvent, and general financial distress hovered over us. The new constitution lessened greatly the expenses of the state government; reduced salaries; and ordered that a tax of two mills upon each dollar's worth of taxable property should be annually assessed and collected, to be applied upon the state indebtedness. Thus a depressed people were imbued with new hope; the credit of the state was restored, and our grand state began her marvelous growth in wealth, population, and prosperity.

My next venture in political life was as a candidate for the legislature in 1850. The dis-

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trict consisted of Shelby and Christian counties. The regular democratic nominee was the Rev. Bushrod M. Henry of Shelbyville, a noted minister of the Christian church. Before the election Judge Vandever became a candidate. I was elected, in a strong democratic district, by about one hundred majority. We had two sessions during the term. At the first session the Illinois Central Railroad company was chartered, and we prevented a charter for a railroad by Vandalia. This assured the completion of the Alton and Terre Haute Route Railroad, now a part of the "Big Four."

The sessions were very pleasant : the capital was gay, and I had my share of enjoyment although our compensation was only two dollars per day. Judge Breese was speaker, and he made a magnificent one.

In the charter of the Illinois Central Railroad company, it is provided that, in consideration of the splendid body of land granted to the corporation, it should pay to the state seven per cent of its gross earnings. In view of the enormous gift which the company received, the state should have had, forever, ten per cent, instead of seven per cent, of the gross earnings.

I was a member of the committee of internal improvements, and when Mr. Rantoul, the agent of the eastern capitalists, appeared before the committee, he said the men who proposed to take the lands and construct the road, had talked of giving to the state ten per cent of the gross earnings. The committee so reported. But an influential lobby was created which influenced the matter, and seven per cent was fixed in the charter. Lincoln, McClelland Pogue of the Galena district, and divers others, formed this lobby.

I was assiduously engaged in my profession until in 1862, when I was elected a member of a convention called to revise the constitution.

Shelby and Cumberland counties composed the district. We made a very good constitution, but, as the convention foolishly and improperly antagonized Governor Yates, who was deservedly very popular, the constitution was not accepted by the people.

As I have arrived at that period of my life when the fearful Civil war between the north and south was in progress, it may be proper that I briefly allude to it. I had voted for Douglas, and was, of course, opposed to the election of Lincoln. I knew him very well. A purer and more honest man, and one more devoted to the best interests of the country, never lived. But my birthplace was in the south. I lived there until I had attained to manhood. The same blood which coursed through my veins, flowed in the veins of hundreds, even thousands, of relatives, scattered through Kentucky, Virginia, Alabama, Missouri, and other southern states. My sympathies were, therefore, with the Southern people. I never had a wish for their success in the mad attempt to disrupt the Union, and put out the light of liberty forever. But I could not engage in the deadly strife with brothers and near relatives. Still, at no time during the terrible struggle, did I falter in my devotion to the union of the states, as essential to our prosperity as a nation, and even to the existence of liberty itself.

On several occasions during the war I endangered my own life in addressing infuriated crowds, and urging peace at home, and the preservation of the Union at all hazards.

In 1864, without having been a candidate for nomination, and without expectation or solicitation, on my part, I was nominated by the democratic convention for congress in the district composed of Shelby, Montgomery, Macoupin, Jersey, Green, Calhoun, Morgan and Scott counties. I visited each of the counties except

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Calhoun, and made speeches at each county seat. I was, of course, elected, as the district was largely democratic.

I took my seat in December, 1865, and we had a continuous session until August following. I was renominated before my return home, but declined. I rather enjoyed the session, but during the latter part of it the heat was intense and a good deal of sickness prevailed.

Just after the war the city was filthy, and had a despoiled appearance, and I had no desire to return. The democrats were few, and sometimes we could not muster votes enough to force a record of the ayes and noes. Men who have since become distinguished were members. There were Thaddeus Stevens, R. B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, James G. Blaine, Roscoe Conkling, and others of great ability.

The duties of a member of congress, if faithfully performed, are constant and arduous. I served on the Committee on Claims and Bankruptcy. The attendance upon the house, committee work, and attention to the incessant requests of constituents, occupied all one's time. I tried to discharge the duties conscientiously; served during the short session, and returned home to my favored profession.

But it seems I was to have new honors thrust upon me. In 1870 a new constitution was adopted, and the judges of the supreme court were increased in number, from three to seven. Seven districts were created, and one judge was to be elected in each district. As the three old judges held over, four additional judges were elected in July, 1870. I was a resident of the 2nd district, composed of nineteen counties. In politics it was democratic. Numerous friends requested me to be a candidate, and I consented. Democrats from the southern part of the district insisted that the candidate should be selected by a party convention. To this I demurred,

and replied that a candidate for judge should be under no obligations to any party, and should not be chosen by a partisan convention. Indeed, I have always thought a judge should be removed, as far as possible, from all political bias or influence. For this reason in the convention of 1847 I voted against the election of judges by the people.

I was nominated at a convention of citizens, without regard to party, and Judge Aaron Shaw was nominated at a democratic convention. I was elected by over eight thousand majority.

I took my seat on the supreme bench at Ottawa in September, 1870, and served for three years. The cases before the court were double what they are now. Hence the judges were occupied during their entire time. We had no time for play or recreation. I was never behind with my work, and never missed a session of the court during the three years of my service. I never met the judges in conference for reading our opinions that I did not have prepared a written opinion in every case assigned to me. Our practice was to read the abstracts and briefs, confer about the facts and law of the case, and then make a minute of our conclusions. All the judges were required to be present at these conferences. When the opinions were written, they were read in the presence of all the judges, and either approved or condemned. Though some of the judges were required to revise, and sometimes to re-write, their opinions, I cannot recall a single instance where I had to review any of my opinions.

My resignation as judge has been thought to have been a strange whim. This was not made because of any dislike of the position. Indeed, I had a decided fondness for it. My brother judges were genial and pleasant gentlemen, and well trained lawyers. My association with them, as well as with the members of the

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bar, was always agreeable. I wrote my opinions with great facility, and could have no cause of complaint. But the confinement to me was very unpleasant and irksome in view of the out-door life I had always followed. Besides, my wife was then in poor health, and I felt that more of my time and attention were due to my family.

In December, 1873, I met with some other lawyers in Springfield, and we formed the State Bar association, of which I was the first president, and was re-elected twice afterwards. This is a good association and should be attended and cherished more by the members of the profession.

In August, 1895, Governor Altgeld, without my knowledge, nominated me, with two other gentlemen, to the senate as a Board of Arbitration under a law of the last legislature. At a meeting of the board I was chosen chairman.

At nearly eighty-seven years of age I am still in the active practice of my profession; enjoy fairly good health; have a happy and quiet home, and have no fears of the future. I cannot say that my life has been

"A galling load
Along a rough, a weary road,"

for I have had my full share of honor and happiness and enjoyment.

I have always tried to have an uncorrupted conscience; to be honest in thought and action; to be faithful to duty and to myself, and to so act as to have a proper respect for myself.

"I cannot tell what you and other men think
of this life;
But for my single self, I had as lief not be,
As live to be in awe of such a thing as my-
self."

With a trustful reliance upon the goodness

and mercy of the Almighty Father, who has bestowed my pathway with blessings, I hope to live my allotted time in peace and quietness.

Below, we give a biographical write-up of the writer of this chapter, furnished us by Hon. Walter C. Headen.

HON. GEORGE D. CHAFEE.

No list of the prominent men of Shelby County would be complete without the name of this gentleman.

His life and character are such as to entitle him to prominent place and mention in these permanent and enduring records.

Mr. Chafee was born July 2nd, 1839, in Rutland county, Vermont. This same county was the birthplace of Stephen A. Douglas and Brigham Young.

His father died when he was three months old, and the old New England home was broken up, and the mother, with her baby, moved to Michigan. She was quite poor, and, at the earliest possible age, the boy was compelled to assist in supporting the family. This he bravely did when a mere child, accepting any odd jobs he could find, and part of the time working on a farm at twenty-five cents a day.

At the age of fourteen he lost his right arm in a threshing machine.

The writer of this article distinctly remembers a conversation he once heard between Mr. Chafee and a battle-scarred veteran of our Civil war. It was long subsequent to the close of the Rebellion and after Mr. Chafee had resided in Shelbyville for years. On being introduced to Mr. Chafee the old soldier looked at his armless sleeve for a moment and then inquired, "Mr. Chafee, in what battle did you lose your arm?"

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"Sir," replied Chafee, fastening his dark piercing eyes upon his questioner, "I am ashamed to confess that I lost that arm in a threshing machine. It is the one deep regret of my life that I did not lose my arm as you received the bullets in your body, namely, in the service and defense of my country and her flag."

This accident changed the whole course of the boy's life. He soon realized that he must fight the battles of life with brain instead of muscle. So he turned his attention from manual labor to other kinds of work. He traveled about the country as a peddler through the summer season and taught school during the winter until by pinching economy he had laid away a few dollars. He then entered the law office of Seaman & Root at Ann Arbor, and studied for a short time.

Upon the organization of the law department of the great Ann Arbor University, Chafee was one of the first boys to take up the study of the law in that institution. Here, he found a friend in the great law writer and professor, Hon. Thomas M. Cooley. This friendship remained unbroken until the death of the latter a few years ago.

Graduating from the law school in March, 1861, he wandered forth to seek a location, and to learn what life had in store for him. What influence caused him to stop in Shelbyville, he, today, says he does not know. He was friendless, penniless and alone in the great world. His only possessions were a clean heart, a clear head, one arm, and just about clothes enough on his back "to wad a gun." It is sufficient for the purposes of this article to state, that he dropped into Shelbyville early one spring morning in 1861; and here, after nearly forty years of active, useful, honorable life, he remains, enjoying the respect and esteem of the thousands of people with whom he has come in contact.

While he has passed the sixtieth mile-stone on life's journey, and his hair has been slightly frosted by the touch of time's finger, he enjoys the prospect of many more years of active business life.

A few old settlers remember young Chafee's personal appearance when he first came to Shelbyville, and from their descriptions, no one would recognize the present portly Mr. Chafee as the same man. When he first came to Shelbyville, now seems a long time ago; "the shot that was heard around the world," had just been fired at Sumpter; Chafee was young, awkward, over six feet tall, and some say, so slender that it was necessary for him to put on an overcoat before he could cast a shadow. He was an abolitionist, an ardent union republican, and an outspoken advocate for the maintenance of the Union of the States and the suppression of the rebellion. At that time the overwhelming sentiment of the County was the other way. All of the powerful local influence were against the young man. The spirit of war was burning in every breast. Young Chafee was subjected to all manner of ridicule, abuse and opposition on account of his political view. His life was even threatened, on several occasions. There were but few men in the county then known as "Union" men; but they were all lion-hearted and were brave unto death; and young Chafee soon took position in their front ranks. On this account, for a long time, his struggle for a livelihood was doubly difficult. During the early part of the Civil war legal business was almost suspended, and Mr. Chafee eked out a meagre existence by keeping books for some of the merchants, accepting agencies for several insurance companies, and occasionally trying a case before a Justice of the Peace. He took his meals at a hotel kept by Cyrus Hall, afterwards colonel of the 14th regiment, Illinois Infantry, paying

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two dollars per week for his board, and had his office in the second story of a building then standing on the ground now occupied by the First National Bank building, sleeping in his office on a lounge that cost about two dollars and a half.

The United States government shortly found need of such a man, and he was employed to assist in enrolling the County for a draft that was ordered. This work did not have a tendency to add to his popularity.

He was one of the first persons to engage in the business of obtaining pensions for wounded soldiers, and widows, and bounties that the government soon commenced to pay for volunteers. Also, he held the office of United States Assessor of Internal Revenue for Shelby County, and later, for his congressional district.

As before stated, Mr. Chafee came to Shelbyville in the spring of 1861. On the day of his arrival court was in session in the old court house, then standing in the middle of the public square. He strolled into the court room; Judge Emerson was on the bench; a great crowd was present, as, in those days, people attended court in great throngs, whether directly interested or not, in pending litigation; a man was being tried on a charge of passing counterfeit five dollar coins.

Hon. Samuel W. Moulton, one of the ablest and best lawyers in the state, was defending the fellow, and, as Chafee entered the room, was cross-examining the chief witness for the prosecution. It seems that this witness had testified very fully and had positively identified a particular coin as the counterfeit. During the examination, Judge Moulton, in such a way as not to be observed by the witness, quietly drew from his pocket five or six genuine coins of the same denomination, dropped the alleged counterfeit among them, and quickly held them all out to

the witness and asked him to point out the counterfeit. The witness, so taken by surprise, was completely broken down, left the witness stand a discredited man, and Judge Moulton's client was acquitted. This incident opened the way for an acquaintance between Moulton and Chafee which soon ripened into friendship. Judge Moulton recognizing young Chafee's ability, gave him employment in his office.

In 1863 the law firm of Moulton & Chafee was organized and the two men continued as partners until January 1, 1897. The old firm of Moulton & Chafee was famous in its day and continued for a longer period than any partnership that has ever existed in the county.

It is worthy of mention, that shortly after this law firm was formed a brick business house was erected on the corner of Main and Morgan streets in Shelbyville, that Moulton & Chafee at once rented a suite of rooms in the new building and that Mr. Chafee still occupies these same rooms, remaining in the same office for nearly forty years.

Mr. Chafee has, through all the years, remained a faithful, earnest republican of the stalwart type, holding high rank in the councils of his party. While not politically ambitious, his party has repeatedly called him to responsible and honorable places. He has been its choice and nominee for both member of congress, and judge of the Circuit court.

In 1876 he was one of the presidential electors from Illinois. This was the election ending in the thrilling contest between Hayes and Tilden for the presidency, and which was finally settled by the Electoral Commission. On account of certain facts in his possession, Mr. Chafee was summoned to Washington as a witness before the Congressional House Committee presided over by Proctor Knott. Here, he became acquainted with David Dudley Field, who

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was Mr. Tilden's lawyer in the famous contest; besides many other men of national fame. At this time, he was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States.

In 1880 he was elected to the Illinois Legislature from the Senatorial district composed of the counties of Shelby, Effingham and Cumberland. This body was known as the 32nd General Assembly. One unusual feature of this particular body, was the fact, that it was convened in a second or special session on the call of Governor (now Senator) Shelby M. Cullom. As a rule, but little attention is paid to new members; they are supposed to spend a session or two as apprentices; such, however, was not the case with Mr. Chafee. He was at once appointed chairman of the Railroad and Warehouse Committee, and served as acting chairman of the committee on Judicial Department and Practice, besides holding other important posts. He was a leader in debate, and whenever he took the floor he seldom yielded it until those opposing him "took to the woods." Those deserving it, generally received their full portion of the biting sarcasm and bitter invective of which Mr. Chafee is so easily a master.

On one occasion, the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Normal was being attacked by its enemies. Chafee had taken the floor and was appealing to the members to vote the necessary appropriation for its support. Durfee of Decatur, interrupted Chafee and demanded information as to how long the republicans intended to vote away the money of the people for soldiers' orphans, stating that he had been reading Gulliver's Travels, and unless the republicans ceased squandering the public money, the state would be washed away by an equally indecent and wasteful use of the taxes the people were being compelled to pay.

Whereupon, Chafee turned upon him and thundered out: "As long as any old soldier has the virility to beget a child, the republican party proposes, in return for the father's patriotism, to care for, and educate such child. I am familiar with Gulliver's Travels, and I beg to inform the gentleman that he and his kind are using the same character of machinery, in their efforts to destroy our state institutions, as was put into the queen's palace, and they will prove wholly inadequate to quench any one of our charitable or benevolent institutions." It is needless to add that the appropriation went through by an overwhelming majority.

Mr. Chafee has been remarkably successful as a business man. By close attention to his affairs he has accumulated much property and is regarded as one of the wealthy men of Shelbyville, and all without sacrifice of the tender qualities necessary to well-rounded character. No man is, or can be, more charitable than he. Those who shall read this article and know Mr. Chafee, will appreciate the truthfulness of the statement, that never at any time or under any conditions has he refused to lend a helping hand or substantial financial assistance to the worthy poor, humble or lowly.

He has probably been at the head of more enterprises for the upholding of the city and county than any other man; he has cleared large tracts of land and in this, and other improvements, has probably paid to the laboring men of the county as much, if not more money, than any other one man.

Seemingly cold and reserved, those who know him best, well understand that he is a great hearted man and a genuine type of the American Christian gentleman.

In May, 1868, he married Miss N. Marie Smith, a daughter of Addison Smith, who was

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one of the old settlers of the county, but who died many years ago.

Mrs. Chafee is a sister of Mrs. Anthony Thornton of Shelbyville, and of Col. D. C. Smith of Normal, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Chafee have four children, two sons and two daughters, all of whom have passed from beneath the home roof, and, to the credit of the father and mother, it is pleasing to state, that all these sons and daughters are leading useful, honorable lives. The two daughters are happily married and live in Boston, Mass. The older son, Dudley, is an architect at Bloomington, this state; the younger son, Dexter, is a doctor of osteopathy at Appleton, Wisconsin.

Justice to this sketch demands the mention of one other matter. The writer believes that a man's character is powerfully influenced and directed by his environments. To what extent Mr. Chafee may be indebted to a happy and sweet

home life for his long and successful career as a citizen and man cannot be stated; he probably does not know; but reference to the marvelous powers of song possessed by his gifted wife ought not, and shall not, be omitted. Through all the years, the sentiment and power of this influence must have been a source of inspiration for the man, as it has been, and still is, a pleasure and happiness to her multitude of friends. Through all the years, Mrs. Chafee has never been too busy, never too weary, to respond to calls from her people for the exercise of this rare and magical charm she possesses. Through all the years she has sung, as no other could, to us, as a people, in the name of home, love, religion, charity, at the bedside of our departing ones, and to the lonely and bereft on earth, and for which we owe to her a debt of undying gratitude. The life of George D. Chafee can never be properly written without this mention of his noble wife.



GEORGE R. GRAYBILL.

THE PRESS OF SHELBY COUNTY FOR SIXTY YEARS.

By HONORABLE GEORGE R. GRAYBILL.

CHAPTER X.

The Press is the world's informant. The leaders in thought and action in the world of progress learn from the Press what has been made known. Then they apply, discover and invent. We have taken the term Press in its full sense. The restricted meaning of the word is—the Newspaper Press.

The Press is the herald of the everyday life of the people. It tells of your birth, your growth, your education, your social life, your business enterprise, your official record, your home experience, your death. The Press heralds the facts of human existence, progress, achievement. It teaches history and science; about men and things. Popular education comes largely through the Press. Public and private enterprise are largely encouraged, stimulated by the Press. It is the medium of communication between the individual and the public. The law uses the Press as its handmaiden to proclaim its mandates; and to protect the taxpayers, by giving publicity to the public business. The Press is the open journal of the history of officialdom, governmental affairs, and as much of the private life of your neighbor as you have any right to know. It moulds public opinion and then reflects it. It tells the facts, reasons about them, suggests remedies or adverse conditions and points to the practical methods for securing advantage. It's the public's entertainer, teacher and friend.

Shelby County interests were first aided by a newspaper in July, 1842, when W. W. Bishop began the publication of the first paper in the county in Shelbyville. It was

THE OKAW.

and it bore a fitful existence for a short time, when it sank beneath the unkind waters of failure and became a memory. Mr. Bishop, feeling himself inadequate for the conditions, declined to Charleston, went to the Mexican war, returned, became judge of Coles county. While Mr. Bishop was a brave soldier and a good Judge, he did not measure up to the ability necessary to conduct a successful newspaper business. The next ambitious gentleman was Joseph C. Duncan, who established a monthly journal,

THE PRAIRIE FLOWER.

in Shelbyville. He was college-bred, had a perspicuous style, was a gifted writer, but was rather too poetic, not practical enough to meet the pioneer environments and The Prairie Flower died. Its bloom was not of the quality to attract enough shekels to pay Mr. Duncan's grocer and clothier. Later we hear of him as a successful banker. And this is another example that is a favorite paradox with a banker—a man who lacks the ability to win success in journalism, yet is well able to shine as a banker.

James Shoaff (father of the present proprietor of The Leader) in 1842 was a printer in

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The Okaw or The Prairie Flower office and for awhile conducted The Prairie Flower; but he abandoned this field and afterward indulged in journalism in Charleston.

From about 1847, Shelby County struggled along without a newspaper until 1852, when

THE SHELBYVILLE BANNER

was unfurled to the breezy life of the free democracy a half century ago in Illinois.

Wm. A. Cochran (brother of James H. Cochran of Ash Grove, where he now resides) with D. M. Castrill, bought the Illinois Globe office in Charleston from Jacob T. Brown and issued the first number of The Banner, July, 1852. The Banner had the vigorous impress of Mr. Cochran's Jacksonian personality and fought valiantly for the election of Franklin Pierce for President and Joel Matteson for Governor. Mr. Cochran withdrew and soon a mortgage in the hands of Wm. A. Harrison swallowed the plant and The Banner slept. Theophilis Short bought the sleeping material and in 1854 it waked for business. The next year P. L. Shutt purchased the paper and made an independent journal of it. He sold to John W. Johnson September 15, 1858, and the name was changed to

THE OKAW PATRIOT,

which he continued as a vigorous advocate of the Stephen A. Douglas democracy. February 14, 1860, Anthony Thornton (Our Grand Old Man, Judge Thornton) took The Patriot and combined it with The Banner, which had just started, December 17, 1859, under the proprietorship of P. L. Shutt. The Patriot, under the firm of Thornton & Shutt, as printers and managers, became at once a most formidable and

influential paper. Judge Thornton tells yet of the junket to Washington City given to western editors by the B. & O. Ry. Co. Mr. Thornton soon retired from the field of journalism; but his clear and logical style has often since been seen in the newspaper column as he enriched its pages with masterful and luminous articles on subjects of pressing public moment. In July, 1863, Mr. Shutt discontinued The Patriot. The next month a stock company of leading democrats was organized and in the following September appeared the first issue of

THE SHELBY COUNTY LEADER,

with W. A. Trower (now an honored retired citizen of this city) as manager and H. H. Coolidge as editor. In December Mr. Trower took full ownership and in July, 1865, sold a half interest to Rufus Summerlin, who assumed sole proprietorship in August. Soon thereafter, Geo. R. Wendling bought a half interest, and the name of the paper was changed to

THE CENTRAL ILLINOIS TIMES.

Mr. Wendling's brilliant and dashing editorials were a feature of The Times for about a year, when he sold to L. B. Stephenson and W. W. Hess. In October, 1867, Stephenson & Hess sold to Dr. E. E. Waggoner, who sold to Summerlin in 1868, when Summerlin again named the paper The Shelby County Leader. For three years Mr. Summerlin, with his sons, braved the uneasy seas of country journalism with The Leader. Mr. Rufus Summerlin, now a very old man, but erect and kind-hearted, and candid as ever, resides with his son, Leon, at Toledo, Ill. Leon is "marvellously proper" as to character for sobriety and honesty and recently sold his newspaper at Toledo to devote his whole time as traveling salesman for a

HISTORIC SKETCH.

printers' material concern. Dolph, another son, is doing a prosperous business as proprietor of The Mattoon Commercial. All the Summerlins were good printers and gifted writers. In March, 1871, Summerlin sold to W. A. Trower. January, 1873, Trower sold a half interest to W. B. Marshutz, who sold back to Trower in 1875, after a short career as a brilliant original writer and manager. Trower continued the business with his genial nature and careful business method in a successful manner until 1895, when he disposed of the paper to Vallee Harold, who conducted it with ability till 1899, when Geo. V. Mechler took it, and, after a short career of tireless energy and peculiar method sold to the present proprietor, Thomas B. Shoaff. Harold is an able editorial writer and business manager, and now has the office of editor in a stock company daily—The Portsmouth (Ohio) Times. Mechler is a fraternal order promoter with his home in Effingham. Mr. Shoaff has a good plant, including a Mergenthaler linotype machine, which his son, James, operates. Mr. Shoaff has had a life-time of experience in newspaper work, is a great hustler and is maintaining the reputation of The Leader for prosperity and influence.

THE SHELBY FREEMAN

was established in Shelbyville by Eli Chittenden in August, 1860. He bought the plant from Pana to advocate the cause of the republican party. His management was not of the kind to meet the exciting conditions of those troublous times and in the spring of 1861, The Freeman was discontinued.

THE SHELBY COUNTY UNION

was born May, 1863, through the influence of

Judge S. W. Moulton and Mr. W. J. Henry, both lawyers here. They felt that the cause of the Union should be espoused by some newspaper in Shelbyville and induced J. W. Johnson, a bright young man of some newspaper experience, to start such a paper, assuring him of their financial support. Johnson purchased the defunct Freeman plant and began his prospectus stating—"The Shelby County Union will be devoted to the suppression of the rebellion in the South, and Copperheadism in the North." Richard Couch, Ral Carr and Jacob Swallow (now proprietor of The Pana Palladium) worked in the office and Johnson's trenchant pen and dauntless courage produced a strong paper. In July, 1864, John A. Young took a half interest in The Union. Johnson withdrew in February, 1865. Then Richard Couch took the paper and sold a half interest to P. T. Martin in March, 1867, and the latter assumed full possession in July, 1867. Martin sold an interest to his brother, E. H. in March, 1871, who had been his local editor. In August, 1872, another brother, H. L., became a member of the firm. P. T. went out in December, 1873, and one year later H. L. became sole owner, and he has managed ably and has made the Union a paying plant since. He began issuing

THE DAILY UNION

in January, 1887, his brother, Harry M., (now Shelbyville's postmaster) as editor--and he filled the post with marked sprightliness. The Martins are all clear and forcible writers with a flowing, easy style. James L. Darby succeeded H. M. as editor and manager, and The Daily has continued, under his pen and managerial methods, to be bright, breezy, prosperous and popular.

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SHELBY COUNTY INDEPENDENT.

began its career, August 6, 1874, with Dr. E. E. Waggoner and J. Wm. Lloyd as editors and proprietors. While the paper was called Independent, it was democratic from the first, as any who knew its editors would know and as its salutatory clearly outlined when it said: "We expect to stand firmly by the fundamental doctrines of this republic, that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed; that the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it, are reserved to the states, respectively, or to the public; that the enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people. * * * We are opposed to a protective tariff, to the national banking system, to all monopolies, to all class legislation bribery and corruption."

Mr. Lloyd withdrew in July, 1875, and Dr. Waggoner took sole ownership and in October, 1876, he said: "Believing that at least one of the three or four democratic newspapers published in this county ought to bear the family name, we this week send this paper out to its many readers and friends as

THE SHELBYVILLE DEMOCRAT.

and hope they may be pleased with its new name." Dr. Waggoner was a ready, lucid and forceful writer and regarded as one of the best political editors in the state; and made The Democrat an influential political paper. In August, 1885 he sold to T. J. and Geo. R. Graybill. In 1887, February 1, the firm became Graybill Bros. & Co., with G. W. Cook as the Co. Geo. R. Graybill was editor and manager till Cook became a partner, when the latter took charge of the management. The Demo-

crat has a large circulation and is a prosperous and influential journal, because energy and honesty will have their reward.

THE CHURCH AND HOME

was a monthly paper started by J. L. Douthit, which he named

OUR BEST WORDS

about April, 1880. He ran a prohibition weekly during the campaign of 1880; and soon after he issued two publications, the monthly religious edition and the weekly prohibition edition. The monthly was discontinued, 1890, and he sold to J. S. Barnum in 1892. Mr. Barnum changed it to a populist paper and called it

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER.

Mr. Barnum was a good writer, but his paper was not patronized well enough and was discontinued.

Mr. Douthit soon issued another monthly paper called

SIMPLE TRUTH.

In October, 1894, he bought back the name and has since published Our Best Words. Mr. Douthit is a talented writer with a remarkably clear and logical style and is making O. B. W. a paper which, judged from a prohibition standpoint, is one of the best.

A. M. Anderson bought a small newspaper plant from Joseph Prior of Clinton, Illinois, and took it to Windsor and began the publication of

THE WINDSOR SENTINEL.

May, 25, 1876. On January 7, 1877, the plant was taken to Paris. It was but a short time,

HISTORIC SKETCH.

however, till the wisdom of the Windsor citizens, who knew that a local paper was a good enterprise for the delight and convenience of the people of the village as well as a great force toward the proper growth and progress of the community, induced Anderson to get another plant and continue The Sentinel. He opened up again in March, soon changed the name to

THE DOLLAR SENTINEL.

and it flourished and struggled fitfully till August, 1879, when it ceased, the plant being removed to Shelbyville. Windsor knew another newspaper enterprise, May 28, 1878, when Warden Bros. began

THE WINDSOR GAZETTE.

J. L. Warden soon became sole proprietor and made a good local newspaper of it. It next came into the hands of Charles and Thomas Miner (our present Sheriff) about 1889, and was conducted with energy and ability by them till, in a year or so, they sold to Wm. E. McCormick (our present Circuit Clerk) who managed it with good business method for about a year, when he disposed of it to Bart Grider, who sold it after a short time to the present proprietors, Lilly & Dunsecomb, who have an all home print paper on a paying basis. Mr. Dunsecomb is a fine printer and Mr. Lilly is a good editor and manager, and The Gazette is neat and prosperous.

THE WINDSOR ADVOCATE

was a thriving local paper published in Windsor for a time, about 1885, by I. H. and Chas. Gilpin, and it was one of the newsiest and best. Charley Gilpin was a ready writer and a good localizer.

M. A. Bates brought press and type from Altamont and issued the first copy of

THE STEWARDSON ENTERPRISE.

June 7, 1878. A. M. Anderson and H. Martin got control of the paper in a few months. Not long after, C. D. Shumard bought Anderson's interest. In June, 1879, W. B. Townsend took Shumard's interest and the business was continued as Harry Martin & Co., and in the December following, A. M. Anderson got possession and for a time made a good paper. He was an editor of force and dash. Sept. 16, 1887, W. H. Fagen and Zip Wilson started the Stewardson Clipper. Mr. Wilson stepped out in a few months and Fagen has since developed The Clipper to its present force as a good local paper, a paying business. He has a good office, a good circulation. Fagen is genial and capable, and has a popular paper.

When a stock company, composed of prominent Greenbackers, purchased the Windsor Sentinel in 1879, they issued the first number of

THE GREENBACK HERALD

in Shelbyville, October 18, 1879. Tom Stuart and G. W. Cook ran the paper. Cook was a young printer with a genius for good management and quick and artistic work as a printer, and Stuart was a brilliant writer, and had the "rag baby" not sickened with what proved its fatal disease, later, The Herald no doubt, would have developed to a permanent and a leading place in country journalism. Cook withdrew, Stuart died and the management was taken by M. A. Bates, who was succeeded by Charles Reeves, and he by Elder Linn; and then Mr. Eaton of Champaign had charge awhile.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Tower Hill first knew the delight of its own paper, August 20, 1880, when M. A. Bates established

THE TRUE DEMOCRAT

there. November 15 of the first year of its life, Jacob Swallow of The Pana Palladium bought The True Democrat and made an independent paper of it, and after it had been run awhile by Nin Alexander it was gathered to its fathers. T. G. Holt & I. K. Story next essayed the rugged seas of newspaperdom in Tower Hill with

THE TOWER HILL BREEZE

about 1892. In about a year Mr. Holt took full control. It was not long till Holt died, when U. G. Huntoon bought the plant and ran the paper awhile. Thos. P. Smith took it from him about 1896, and held it about six months, when he sold to W. E. McCormick, who, for about a year held it, when he sold to H. J. Hamlin and C. W. Steward; and they, feeling unable to undertake continuance of the enterprise, sold to U. G. Huntoon, who has since managed The Breeze with ability, it being popular, breezy and a paying business, of great value to the town as well as to Mr. Huntoon.

J. Wm. Lloyd and Geo. R. Wendling, in January, 1868, presented

THE COMMERCIAL.

which they published for awhile as a trade paper. Other enterprises of like character were started and soon ended, either because they had served their purpose or because they did not produce results. One of these was

THE APIARY,

started by E. Homrighous and J. W. Johnson, who made it interesting; but they soon let it fall.

In June, 1893, W. S. Baichley began publishing

THE SIGEL ADVOCATE.

and continued with profit to Sigel and more or less benefit to himself till he sold to W. A. Smith in October, 1896, when the present proprietor, P. C. Trager, took ownership and has since been making it a good local paper that is doing Sigel and Mr. Trager profit.

It was 1872 that J. F. Harner established

THE COWDEN HERALD.

In 1888 N. E. McGrail began

THE COWDEN ENTERPRISE.

In 1889 E. W. Anderson established

THE COWDEN HERALD.

W. H. Taylor took charge of The Herald in 1891, and carried forward the business for about two years. These newspaper enterprises in Cowden were attended with more or less success, the village having a paper most of the time till March, 18, 1892, when the present office of

THE REFLECTOR

was established by O. A. Jewett, and it has since been doing a fairly good business. It was independent in politics till a few years ago, when it became a republican paper. Mr. Jewett has a popular personality and is making a good paper.

There have been several newspapers started in Herrick, but they did not last long. The last one there was by J. A. Quicksall, who moved his plant to Strasburg in 1899.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Oconee had several newspapers started but they all soon fell by the wayside, and she now has none.

It was in June, 1872, that A. M. Anderson, editor, and John P. Marnel, as publisher, issued the first newspaper ever in Moweaqua, and called it

THE MOWEAQUA REGISTER.

Anderson's incisive editorial style was enjoyed by the Moweaquans till December, 1875, when it was sold to Arnold Hughes, the payment being guaranteed by ten leading citizens of the village who knew the worth to a town of a newspaper. For about two years Hughes ran it alone—when the enterprise was no more—the material passing to the citizens who stood surety for him. After about a year, the 7th of March, 1878, F. M. Hughes bought the plant and started The Register again, and fought adverse conditions for another two years, when it ceased—the plant being taken away. January 12, 1882, O'Banion & Co., of Maroa, started

THE MAIL.

in Moweaqua with W. A. Steidley (now a successful newspaper man in Louisiana), as editor. It was printed in Maroa and distributed in Moweaqua till March, 1882, when Steidley bought it and opened up at home in Moweaqua. In the following September C. M. Hiter and A. Gilliland bought it and within the year sold it to J. W. Crane. In August, 1886, Hiter issued

THE CALL.

which later came into the hands of Pease Bros., and then Fred & Burres, and finally to Winter & Neblock. In May, 1889, W. A. Steidley took it and combined it with The Mail, which had

been moving along through the efforts of Crane; then Johnson & Elsum, and then Pease Bros., till sold to Steidley, July 26, 1889, at which time he gave his paper the name of both.

THE CALL-MAIL.

April 1, 1893, the present proprietor and editor, Bryce P. Smith, bought and has since been making a pronounced success of the paper as a money-maker, and an influence-maker. It is today published in its own building, has a modern plant and enjoys prosperity.

E. D. Bacon, Wm. Whitworth, Bella A. Whitworth, J. E. Gregory and Josiah Berry formed a stock company and placed J. H. Rockwell in charge as editor and manager of what they called

THE SHELBY COUNTY REPUBLICAN.

On Good Friday, 1893, the first issue came out. In about three months the editorial chair showed up vacant and The Republican had "shuffled off." Fred S. Pease and Lee Dale bought the plant via the mortgage sale route and presented their first number of

THE SHELBY COUNTY CITIZEN.

June 22, 1893. For less than half a year it reposed in a "Peaceful Dale, as it were," a memory. Then C. W. Crane took the material and produced

THE MOWEAQUA REPUBLICAN.

History repeated itself again and the plant sank out of sight. October 11, 1894. Mrs. Wm. Whitworth got possession of the office, added material, and has since carried forward the enterprise with patience, energy and ability, and

HISTORIC SKETCH.

the paper has influence and standing as a consistent Republican organ and a reliable business concern.

In Findlay, December 3, 1892, J. G. Cutler brought forth the first number of

THE FINDLAY ENTERPRISE.

In May, Hubert Wright bought the paper, who conducted it with honor and credit till May, 1896, when he sold to John W. Moore, who bravely bore aloft its banner till the sheriff sold it in August, 1897. It was resurrected in a short time, by its founder, J. G. Cutler, who had been a Chicago printer after he sold out; and he has since been carrying forward The Enterprise. He bought both outfits new from Chicago to conform to what he thought a village newspaper plant should be and now has a paying business. Mr. Cutler has good business methods and enjoys the respect of a good constituency. The Enterprise was independent in politics till September, 1900, when it announced that it would from then be a republican paper.

In November, 1895, W. H. Fagen started a little newspaper in Strasburg, with Harry Cartlidge as editor. In May, 1896, he sold to Thomas Inman, who conducted it till the following December, when it suspended. Cartlidge and Inman made neat and reliable papers and helped their town by advertising it through

their editorials and their ads—but the field was too small, and could not support it. Mr. J. H. Quicksall started

THE HERALD,

which he is now managing with a degree of success.

The Shelby County Press, today, embodying Our Best Words, The Union, The Leader, The Democrat, in Shelbyville; The Breeze in Tower Hill; The Republican and The Call-Mail in Moweaqua; The Reflector in Cowden; The Enterprise in Findlay; The Gazette in Windsor; The Herald in Strasburg; The Clipper in Stewardson and The Advocate in Sigel—thirteen newspapers—most of them managed to produce profits about equal to the profits resulting from other legitimate business with the same investment and managed with the same energy and sense, is a considerable part of the business activity and moral influence of Shelby county. Thirteen agencies are continuously commanding before the public every good example of successful achievement in moral worth in business, politics and social life. The Press is constantly urging public enterprise, official honesty, social purity and private virtue. The editors and proprietors of these concerns are some of our best and most public-spirited citizens. The Shelby County Press is the friend of progress and is receiving a loyal support from our appreciative people.



DR. GEORGE W. MAUZEY.

THE SCHOOLS.

CHAPTER XI.

The great commonwealth of Illinois is justly proud of her public school system, which occupies a place in the front rank of the school systems throughout the states of the Union. Prior to the year 1853, however, matters pertaining to education had been in rather a confused state, no law having as yet been enacted which was satisfactory to the people at large. Frequent changes were made in the school laws, but their betterment seemed to go from bad to worse until it looked as though the educational affairs of the state were assuming a chaotic condition.

In the year above mentioned the General Assembly passed a bill bearing upon the subject, which was introduced by Honorable S. W. Moulton, of Shelbyville. By the provisions of this bill the office of State Superintendent was made a separate one, to be filled by appointment by the Governor until the general election in 1855, and bi-ennially by election, thereafter; and directed the superintendent who should be appointed to frame a bill for the unification of the school system of the state. Hon. N. W. Edwards was appointed the first State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and to him belongs the honor of framing such bill as spoken of above, which was readily accepted by the Legislature, and adopted as a law, February 15, 1858. This system was the first to really make

the schools free, by providing for a sufficient state and local tax for their support, and it constitutes the body of the present excellent free school system of Illinois. Important modifications have been made from time to time, notably in 1872 and 1879. The management of the system is in the hands of a board of three directors, one elected each year for three years, for each district; a board of trustees, elected in the same manner, with a treasurer whom they appoint bi-ennially, for each township; a county superintendent, elected for four years, for each county; and a state superintendent, elected for four years.

The sources from which the common school and other public educational revenue is derived, are as follows: The three per cent. fund, surplus revenue, seminary fund, county fund, township fund, fines and forfeitures, the state appropriation of one million dollars annually, and the district tax fund. On petition of fifty qualified voters, boards of trustees are authorized to establish township High schools. Provision is made for boards of education with special powers, in districts having two thousand or more inhabitants.

Such is a brief statement of the general outlines of the present school system of our state: and founded upon such a system it is not a source of wonder that there has been such a steady and wonderful development in our schools, and they must ever continue to be the first means for securing the prosperity and happiness of our commonwealth.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

THE EARLY SCHOOLS.

In scope, character and influence the early schools of Shelby county were not unlike those of other new districts. Amongst the early settlers could occasionally be found one who would voice such a sentiment: "I never had no eddication an' my children can git along as I have;" but such irrational parents were scarce. Most of the parents, realizing that their own success and usefulness had been retarded by a lack of education, were anxious that their children should have better educational advantages than they, themselves, had. They perhaps had never heard the old proverb, "A little learning is a dangerous thing;" or, hearing it, they were slow to believe it, and were quite willing to believe the "dangerous thing" something worth seeking. Thus, among the sturdy pioneers there were many warm friends and advocates of schools. Resulting from this, schools were established with almost the first settlement of the county, and always in a neighborhood just as soon as a sufficient number of pupils could be gathered.

We shall not attempt a comparison of the early schools with those of today, for it would resolve itself into a "contrast." Still the old-time school had its mission, the old school-master his duties; and how faithfully and self-sacrificingly these were met is fully attested by many for whom, in those schools and by those masters, was laid the foundation of a splendid education which has prepared them for occupying positions of trust and honor among men. Many a man, prominent in public life in the recent past, could point back to the little log school house of pioneer days, and say: "Therein was the beginning of my success." All honor, then, to the "old master" who, with ferule or

hazel-switch would enforce his commands and preserve the dignity of the school.

It has been said that the old-style school master was generally an individual whose fitness for the position he assumed was attested by the fact that he had never succeeded at anything else, and for whom dame Nature had done little, and culture nothing at all. Be that as it may, yet, there were among the early teachers and those who were in the ranks sixty years ago, men of genuine worth, possessed of much good, sound sense, who, if they could not impart information concerning Latin roots and Greek verbs, were able to and did instil into their pupils much of that which was of more practical use to them in their early life in a "new" country. It is remembered that amongst the teachers in the "thirties and forties" could now and then be found a college man, and a genius was not uncommon. Even a graduate of Yale, who had reputation for poetical productions, was amongst the number.

The first school in the county of Shelby was taught by one Moses Story, who was the forerunner of the hundreds of able teachers who have since honored the profession. For a quarter of a century after he finished the first term, he was a well known character of the county, and is yet kindly remembered by many who knew him in those days.

Elias Miller was another of the pioneer teachers of whom honorable mention should be made. He came to the county before its organization, and, being a widower, made his home with Barnet Bone. For several years he was engaged in teaching, and was considered one of the foremost in his profession. Later he married again, and lived for a number of years in Shelbyville. Mr. Miller lost his life by exposure to the cold. One day, during the win-

HISTORIC SKETCH.

ter of 1837, he started for Dry Point township to visit friends. He lost his way in the timber, and after wandering about until evening was obliged to spend the night in the woods. It was bitterly cold, and death resulted from the exposure. John Price, the Greens, Squire R. Davis, and Addison Smith were also well-known teachers in the early days. Davis was the man who discovered a new method for solving arithmetical problems, and Smith was the teacher who first taught the rustic youths that the earth was spherical.

The first school house in this county was built in 1821, in that region now known as Big Spring township, and stood on or near the land upon which Ormsby Vanwinckle settled. Doubtless it was taught the first school of the county, being the one conducted by Mr. Story. This school house was a neat hewn-log structure, more comfortable than some which were erected later. These primal "institutions of learning" were of a very crude type of architecture. They were built of logs, generally unhewn, chinked and daubed, and having a spacious fire-place at one end of the room. The earth was often the only floor, though in some of them puncheons, or split logs, served as a floor. Others, built for use only during the summer, for the accommodation of the little children, were without windows, light being admitted through the open doorway and through the cracks which were found between the logs. It was but seldom that glass was used in the windows which did exist, greased paper serving in the stead of that commodity. The furniture was of the rudest type and contrasts painfully with that of our modern school houses. For a desk for writing purposes they had a rough shelf along one side of the room, while a split log, with the flat side smoothed with the

adz, and supported on wooden pins, served as a bench upon which to seat the scholars.

The individual plan of instruction was the system generally followed. The first class in the morning was called to recite by the teacher's quick, sharp; "Rise; manners; take your seats." Then followed slow, monotonous, expressionless reading of each pupil in turn. The reading concluded, the class turned and swung their feet over the bench toward the wall and the "'ritin'" began; in which exercise they used copy-books made from plain foolscap, and attempted to imitate the "copy" at the top of the page, which had been placed there by the master. Following this was the "arithmetick" lesson, which, like the writing exercise, occupied much of the teacher's time and attention, as he usually had to frequently refer to the manuscript book in his desk, in which all the problems in the arithmetic had been worked out, or the solutions copied from the book of some old schoolmaster. In the meantime the second class had its turn at "the three R's," and so on, down to the youngest child, who had been sent to school for the sole purpose of relieving the mother of its care. These earlier schools served their purpose, but gradually gave way to better ones that prepared the way for the most excellent schools of the present.

The second school about which any information can be gleaned, and the first to be taught in Shelbyville, was conducted in the old log court house in 1827, by Joseph Oliver, a prominent character in the early affairs in the county. Mr. Oliver served as postmaster at this time, and, for lack of better accommodations, kept the mail in his hat. Thus the post office was wherever Mr. O. was to be found. The old court house was used as a school house for many years; here John Perryman taught in 1831 and Addison Smith years after; Charles Wood-

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ward, still a resident of Shelbyville, occupied it in 1841. There was usually a school of some kind in the village, but no building to be used exclusively for school purposes, was erected until the building of the Academy in 1854. The first school in the same township, but east of the river, was taught in 1831, by Daniel J. Green, in a small log cabin. Bushrod W. Henry taught in the same house seven years later, and, in the same year, S. R. Davis taught where Oak Grove Chapel was afterwards built.

The second school house in the county was built in 1832, in Richland township. It was built of round hickory logs, and the windows were of greased paper. James Rouse and William Robinson were the first teachers to wield the rod and instruct the youth of that locality in "book-learning."

In Ash Grove township, John Price was the first teacher, holding school in an empty cabin on his place; the second was taught in a cabin on the farm of A. G. Frazer, by a one-armed man named Younger Green. This man afterwards taught the first school in the first school house, a small log building erected on the southeast corner of Section 4, and which, for several years, was without any other floor than the bare earth.

The first school house in the northwestern part of the county, was built in Flat Branch township, near the centre of Section 12; and being centrally located, was largely attended by children of surrounding townships. David Simon was the first teacher, and J. C. Rodman the second. The first school building in Windsor township was built in 1835; near the Ben Bruce place on Upper Sand Creek, the first school being taught by S. R. Davis. Other early teachers were Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, Sarah Clay, and the daughters of Addison

Smith, above mentioned. In Big Spring township the first school was taught by Thomas Bell, in an empty house belonging to John Spain. S. R. Davis and John Fleming taught in Holland township in 1837-38, but it was not until about 1845 that a building was erected for school purposes. This was on Section 29, near the Dan Gallagher place. In Oconee, near where the Hinton school house now stands, was built the first one in that township. A small log school house was built just north of where Moweaqua now stands, in 1836, and "Old Hickory," a log cabin standing near the centre of Section 3, was doubtless the first school house in Tower Hill township. The old "Elm School House," on Section 34, in Rural township, was erected in 1845.

By the year 1850 nearly all of the townships of the county were organized, and the management of the local affairs was turned over to the board of trustees and directors, and from that time on there was a gradual improvement in the schools throughout the county. Particularly was this noticeable after the enactment of the new school law in the early 50's, referred to in the beginning of the chapter. The rough and uncouth school houses with their earthen or puncheon floors, rough benches, and greased paper windows, of which we have attempted to give some little idea in the preceding pages, have been displaced by the neat, comfortable and handsome structures of frame and brick, which are now to be found throughout the length and breadth of the county, and are numerous enough to be in close touch with every home.

With all due respect to the memory of the teachers whose names appear in this chapter, and the many others who did splendid self-sacrificial work in those early days, we still must say they, whose attainments were limited,

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and whose abilities were undeveloped, have been superseded by a class of teachers of rare mental and teaching ability, who are in the front rank of their chosen profession, and whose fitness for the positions they occupy is demonstrated by the high character of the schools over which they preside. Shelby county teachers are, as a class, earnest and diligent in their preparation for their schoolroom duties, devoted to their work, and untiring in their efforts to raise the already high standard of their respective schools.

This year, 1900, there are in the county 169 school districts, with 170 school houses. There are 235 qualified teachers, of whom 120 are females. The number of male pupils in the ungraded schools of the county is 3,184; females, 2,969. There are eleven graded schools, with a total of 1,276 male, and 1,262 female pupils, making total number of pupils of all ages in the county, 8,691. There is but one High school, that of Shelbyville, which is doing most excellent work, and graduating pupils who are in attendance from all parts of the county.

Superintendent Randle possesses high qualifications for the important position he occupies, being an educator of rare ability. With Principal Roberts and a large corps of competent teachers in the school, Shelbyville has the reputation of having the best public and High school in Central Illinois. The building in which this High school is conducted, was built in 1869, at a cost of about \$50,000, and is a model of neatness, convenience and beauty.

The estimated value of all property in the county used for school purposes, is \$200,000, a great increase over that of twenty years ago. The amount distributed this year to the several township treasurers, from the state school fund, is \$7,727.01. The principal of the township school fund belonging to the townships of

the county, is \$37,123.47. This is a loanable fund, the interest upon which is the principal revenue for the support of the schools. The special levy for school tax for 1900, was \$81,031.46. The names of the several township treasurers, with their post office addresses, are given as follows:

Township.	Treasurer.	P. O. Address.
Oconee, 10-1.....	B. S. Sloan	Oconee
Oconee, 9-1.....	B. E. Burgess	Shinkle
Herrick.....	John Adams	Herrick
Cold Spring.....	W. M. Fellers	Skates
Tower Hill.....	J. W. Dean	Tower Hill
Rural.....	W. E. Killam	Tower Hill
Flat Branch.....	P. G. Ludwig ..	Moweaqua
Moweaqua.....	B. H. McIlennery	Moweaqua
Dry Point, 9-3....	James W. Jones ...	Cowden
Dry Point, 10-3...	James Barton	Lakewood
Rose.....	F. D. Crook	Shelbyville
Ridge.....	John W. Boys...	Shelbyville
Pickaway.....	Bryant Corley ...	Yantisville
Penn, 13-3.....	Bryant Corley, ..	Yantisville
Penn, 14-3.....	H. H. Wagner	Dalton City
Holland, 9-4.....	M. C. Butler, ...	Fancher
Holland, 10-4.....	S. T. Gallagher	Mode
Shelbyville, 11-4...	C. W. Steward,	Shelbyville
Shelbyville, G. S. W. S. Middlesworth, S'by'e		Okaw,.....
Okaw,.....	O. E. Stumpf..	Findlay
Todd's Point.....	E. S. Combs	Findlay
Prairie, 9-5.....	W. F. Lane	Shumley
Prairie, 10-5.....	D. Mautz	Stewardson
Richland.....	John N. Storm..	Strasburg
Windsor.....	F. M. Jones	Windsor
Sigel.....	F. Hoene	Sigel
Sigel.....	D. Mautz	Stewardson
Sigel.....	Wm. A. Dooley	Trowbridge
Big Spring.....	Wm. A. Dooley	Trowbridge
Ash Grove.....	Preston Closon.....	Sexson

The first Teachers' Institute held in the county was in Shelbyville, in the summer of

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1875. John Stapleton, then County Superintendent, T. F. Dove, then Superintendent of Schools in the city, and Professors McCormick and De Garmo, of the State Normal University, were the four gentlemen who conducted that Institute.

The county superintendency is an important factor in bringing the schools of a county up to a high degree of excellency. The real value of this superintendency can be only conjectured, not estimated. The work of a good, conscientious superintendent is arduous and his duties important, and no man of ordinary qualifications should be elected to such a prominent position. In the selection of County Superintendents, however, Shelby has been singularly fortunate, ever having placed in that office a man eminently fitted to discharge its duties, and to raise the educational work of the county to a still higher level; and the present incumbent, J. A. Montgomery, is no exception to this class.

The first school commissioner of the county was Joseph Oliver, appointed in 1831, holding the office, with several others, until 1841, when he was succeeded by Edward Evey. Mr. Evey continued in service until succeeded by Judge Moulton, in 1853. Samuel King was elected to that office in 1861, and served four years, or until 1865. In that year the title of the incumbent of the office was changed to "county superintendent of schools," and the term extended to four years. Anthony T. Hall was elected in 1865, and continued in office until his death in the autumn of 1872. The vacancy was filled by the appointment of E. A. McGrew. John Stapleton was elected in 1873; Homer S. Mouser in 1877; and he was succeeded by W. B. Marshutz; M. Barbee was the successor of Mr. Marshutz, and he, in turn, was succeeded by J. A. Montgomery.

SHELBY SEMINARY.

A chapter on the schools of the county would not be complete did it not contain an allusion to the old Shelby Seminary, or Academy. This was established in 1854, in response to a popular demand for an institution of higher grade and character than the schools then existing. Up to that time there had been no building in Shelbyville devoted solely to school purposes, but in that year the Shelby Academy, as it was at first called, was erected on North Broadway, where it still stands, a monument to the broad minds of the progressive citizens who were responsible for its inception forty-six years ago. Early in the year previous, however, the good work had its beginning, but the building was not ready for occupancy until '54. Hon. S. W. Moulton was tendered the principalship, but it was declined by him. Then Charles W. Jerome, a teacher in the Danville Seminary, was secured for the position, which he held for fifteen years, barring a few which he spent as a soldier in the Civil war. Associated with Mr. Jerome at the beginning, was R. M. Bell, an able assistant. About seventy pupils were present the first day, which number increased to one hundred before the end of the term. During the vacation the school was extensively advertised as "Shelby Male and Female Academy," and at the beginning of the second session there was an increased attendance, and Rev. C. C. Burroughs was made preceptor and teacher of mathematics. At the close of this session Mr. Bell retired, and Jasper L. Douthit took the place left vacant. Among other teachers who were employed in the Seminary during its existence, were: Miss Olivia A. Smith, Berkley Myers, Parker M. McFarland, A. M.; Rev. W. H. Webster, Eugenia A. Morrison, Ann E. Rhoads, Judson A. Roundy, Mar-

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garet E. Osbond, Mary Osbond, Thos. Easter-day, A. M. Hess, D. W. Jacoby, Rev. G. A. Pollock, Parkhurst T. Martin, Ione S. Daniels, James M. North, Mrs. Anna Headen, Martha C. Kerr, and Mary A. Hall.

The Seminary had a peculiar mission to fulfil, that of preparing the way for a suitable educational system in Shelbyville, and well did it play its part. The establishment of the school system and High school was the signal for the passing of this institution. The property was transferred to the Board of Education of the city, and the Shelby-Seminary ceased to exist.

No one can estimate the value of its work, or measure the influence it still has over the many who look back to the days of earnest educational effort spent within its walls, as the happiest of their lives; and in their memory live over again the experiences and associations which have left their impress upon their character. It is ever spoken of with reverence, and

will never cease to be remembered by those who knew and loved it.

Charles W. Jerome, mention of which was made as the first principal of the Academy, still lives, and is a resident of Atlanta, Georgia. He is revered and beloved by those who knew him in the olden days as a faithful friend, an earnest and competent educator, a kind teacher and a thorough christian gentleman of high character.

Lack of space compels us to close this brief sketch of the schools of Shelbyville. We will say, however, that our schools have never before been in the excellent condition in which they are now to be found, and yet the improvement still continues. And while we laud the excellent school system which makes this possible we must not forget the scores and scores of noble, self-sacrificing teachers of the past and present, who have put into this work the very best of their talents.

SHELBY COUNTY IN WAR.

By ELGIN H. MARTIN.

CHAPTER XII.

The County of Shelby took its name from Isaac Shelby. He was a patriot—an officer in the Revolutionary war. Such being the case, those who came after him might naturally be expected, at least in some degree, to be like-minded. A patriot is certain to inculcate love of country among his associates, and that Mr. Shelby did this is shown by the martial spirit shown by his successors in the work of building up and giving foundation to a new country. Among the early settlers of the country were a number of soldiers of the war of 1812. Prominent among these was Joseph Oliver, whom many of the older people of the county yet remember, for he lived to a ripe old age. He and two of his elder brothers, John and Richard, served in the cavalry against the British, and did valiant service.

In the spring of 1832, Blackhawk, a Sac Indian chief, took the war path with his warriors and threatened the extermination of the white settlers of Central Illinois. For their protection Gov. Reynolds called for several hundred volunteers and appointed Beardstown as their rendezvous. The call was responded to with a promptness characteristic of a truly brave people, and none responded with more alacrity than did the hardy pioneers of the good county of Shelby. Parts of two companies were raised in this county. These companies were commanded by Captains Daniel Price and Peter Warren.

Among those who enlisted from Shelby in these companies were: William Price, Elijah Biggs, John Cochran, Jr.; Green Frazier, John Perdew, Nathan Curry, A. G. Frazier, Abner Poe, David Elliott, John Simpson, Samuel Parks, Samuel Rankin, Levi Casey, John Green, Charles Welch, Thomas Hall, Jordan Ball, Thomas Scribner, Joseph McCain, John Hall, William Green, James Whosong, William Templeton, William Sherrell, L. Mosely. Many of the descendants of these men yet live in the county. Capt. Daniel Price was one of the early settlers of Ash Grove township, while Capt. Peter Warren—afterwards a colonel and brigadier-general of militia—was a resident of the Sand Creek settlement. It need not be said that the Shelby county contingent in these two companies did good service in the campaign against and victory over Black Hawk and his warriors. The success of this campaign and the treaty which followed brought peace to the settlers, which has not since been broken.

Shelby county volunteers also gave a good account of themselves in the Mexican war in 1846—47. Illinois contributed six regiments of troops for this war. These were commanded respectively by Colonels John J. Harden, Wm. H. Bissell, Fernis Forman, Edward D. Baker, James Collins and Edward W. Newby. Colonel (afterward general) Edward D. Baker, distinguished himself later in the war of the Union, losing his life at the sanguinary battle of Ball's Bluff, Oct. 20, 1861.

A company of Shelby county men was raised for the Third regiment—Col. Forman. Of



MR. AND MRS. ELGIN H. MARTIN.

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this company James Freeman became captain; W. L. McNeil, second lieutenant; David Evey, third lieutenant; John Casey, first sergeant; N. Corley, third sergeant; Orville Robertson, fourth sergeant, and Wm. Price, Michael Halbrook and L. F. Doyle, corporals. The privates were: Arthur Bankson, Benton Beck, James Chatham, Franklin Chatham, Jones Clair, G. W. Delap, William Griffith, Abraham Gordon, Clayborn Hooper, Joseph Hooper, E. Lang, Samuel Matney, Jackson Massey, Geo. W. McKenzie, Henry Phelps, John Row (wounded at Cerro Gordo), Josiah O'Riley, Hardin Smith, Benjamin Weldon, Laben Warren, William Smith, Lewis Scribner, David Vanwinkle, Adolphus Banning, William H. Jackson, Washington Fanning, David Truitt, Nelson Farlow, Aaron Barker, James Brannon, John Barnes, Jesse I. Reed, Able Jackson, Stephen Ring, B. T. Webb, John Corbin, Howell Smith. The following members of the company died in the service: Michael Halbrook, John Cook, Solomon Pierce, John Myers, James Goodwin, Elijah Conner, Andrew Henderson, William Killam, Washington Moore, John Jayne, Alexander Dixon, James Curry, Calvin Williams, Fred Clossen.

This company, (B, of the 3d regiment), left Shelbyville June 22, 1846, and were mustered into the United States service at Alton soon afterward. The regiment was a part of Gen. Shield's brigade, and participated in the siege and capture of Vera Cruz, and the memorable battle of Cerro Gordo, where the regiment greatly distinguished itself.

Company "G," of the Sixth regiment was also partly made up of Shelby county men. The records show the following as residents of this county: First Lieut. Rely Madison, Second Lieut. Simon Lundy, O. P. Helton, corporal; Joab Kelley, corporal; (died in the service); Mason B. Kelley, corporal; (died in service);

Michael T. Brewster, corporal; Privates W. A. Clements, Joseph Evey, William Corbin, Samuel Craig, Thomas Dobbs, James Wadkins, Elias Corbin, James Wilson, Harvey Tresner, (died in service), John Tresner, John Davenport, Noble J. Brand, Dudley Hopper, Lewis Clark, (died in service), and Joseph Moore. This regiment served about nineteen months, most of the time on garrison duty. Of those named above Oliver P. Helton is yet living and a resident of Shelbyville.

SHELBY'S PART IN THE GREAT WAR FOR THE UNION.

While the sons of Shelby were more than willing to shed their blood for their country in the war of 1812 and the Mexican war it remained for the stupendous conflict for the preservation of the nation to bring out their stalwart and invincible patriotism. It might well have been supposed that the long years of peace and quiet between 1848 and 1861 would unfit the people for martial pursuits; but far from it. When the stars and stripes were fired upon by treasonable hosts at Fort Sumter, Shelby county's loyal sons were not the last to be stirred to action. Fort Sumter fell April 13, 1861. On the 15th Gov. Yates, of Illinois, received the following dispatch from Washington:

"Call made on you by to-night's mail for six regiments of militia for immediate service."

"SIMON CAMERON,
"Secretary of War."

In ten days over ten thousand men tendered their services to the Governor, and more than the state's full quota was in camp at Springfield. Of this tender, one full company was made up of the flower of Shelby's young patriots. This company (B, of the 14th), however, was not accepted under the first call.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

SEVENTH INFANTRY.

The adjutant-general's reports show but one Shelby county man as a member of the Seventh.

EIGHTH INFANTRY.

This regiment had for its Colonel, Richard J. Oglesby, a man well and favorably known by the older Shelby county people. He became a Major-General of Volunteers; was among the most efficient of the many volunteer officers contributed by the state, and subsequently served his country in a civil capacity as Congressman, Governor, and U. S. Senator. The regiment was organized for the three months' service, April 25, 1861, and July 25, 1861, was re-organized for three years. It took part in some of the bloodiest battles of the war, among them Forts Henry and Donelson, the seige of Corinth, and was especially distinguished in the battles of Raymond and Champion Hill. The regiment "veteranized"—re-enlisted for another three year term—March 24, 1864, and participated in the campaign against Mobile and Fort Blakely and was mustered out at Baton Rouge, La., May 4, 1866. Shelby county contributed five recruits to this gallant regiment.

NINTH INFANTRY.

This regiment was mustered into the three months' service April 28, 1861, and for three years, July 26, 1861. It was a fighting regiment, having participated in no less than one hundred and ten battles and skirmishes. Col. Jesse J. Phillips (recently deceased) was for a time in command of the "old ninth," which for a short term served as mounted infantry. Among its most important battles were: Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Shiloh, seige and battle of Corinth, Sherman's campaign to Atlanta, and his memor-

able march to the sea. The regiment was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., July 9, 1865.

The muster roll of Company "H" shows the names of five Shelby county men.

THE ELEVENTH INFANTRY

Was organized and mustered into service at Springfield, April 30, 1861, and re-enlisted for three years' in the following July. This regiment is notable for the number of its commanding officers and their distinguished service. The Eleventh had four Colonels. The first two were W. H. L. Wallace and Thos. E. G. Ransom, both of whom were afterward given the star of a brigadier-general. The third, Col. Garet Nevin, was killed in action during the seige of Vicksburg; the fourth and last was Col. Jas. H. Coates, who was breveted brigadier-general at the close of the war. The regiment participated in the battles of Forts Henry and Donelson, Corinth, seige of Vicksburg; was also engaged in the campaign against Mobile, Spanish Fort, and Fort Blakely. The regiment was mustered out at Baton Rouge, La., July 14, 1865. Four men from Shelby were members of Company G, of the Eleventh.

COMPANY "B" OF THE FOURTEENTH INFANTRY.

This has always been known as "Capt. Hall's company," for the reason that he was in the lead in its enlistment, and went out as its commanding officer. D. C. Smith, Hon. S. W. Moulton, Leander Webster, Geo. D. Chafee and others were also active in its organization. Co. B's first officers were: Cyrus Hall, captain; Dudley C. Smith, first lieutenant; Milton Leander Webster, second lieutenant. Sergeants Geo. A. Poteet, Fred P. Harding, Jas. J. Durkee,

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Jerome J. Hines. Corporals Malcolm Copeland, Eli F. Chittenden, Eleazer Slocum and James Dugan.

The company left Shelbyville 100 strong to go into camp at Jacksonville, May 8, 1861. They were mustered into the state service on the 11th and into the United States service on the 25th of the same month. Before leaving Shelbyville a beautiful silken flag was presented to the company by Samuel W. Moulton in behalf of the ladies. This flag was carried through the war and is now in the possession of Geo. Wright, of Decatur, who was captain of the company the last year of the war. In September, 1861, Capt. Hall was promoted to be major and Lieut. Webster captain in the newly organized 7th cavalry, when D. C. Smith became captain, Geo. A. Poteet 1st lieutenant, and Geo. Wright 2d lieutenant of the company. Other members of this company who received promotion were: Cyrus Hall became a brigadier-general; D. C. Smith raised and commanded the 143rd infantry; Geo. A. Poteet became lieutenant-colonel, and E. Slocum captain in the 115th infantry; M. H. Copeland became captain of company A, of the 14th; H. M. Peden became captain of company E; Henry Harbough, a private, was promoted to be second lieutenant of the company, while Parkhurst T. Martin, another private, of Co. B, raised and commanded Co. K, of the re-organized 14th.

In addition to more than 100 men in Co. B, Shelby was represented in several other companies of the 14th.

After the consolidation of the 14th and 15th regiments, in the fall of 1864, two companies of one year men (I and K), were organized and joined the 14th. The officers of these were: Company I—Captain, P. J. Taylor; 1st lieut., Jacob Brown; 2nd lieut., Benj. J. Puckett. Com-

pany K—Captain, Park. T. Martin; 1st lieut., Elam H. Robinson; 2nd lieut., Marshall B. Martin.

After a campaign in Missouri the Fourteenth was ordered to Tennessee and distinguished itself at Shiloh, where the gallant regiment with Col. Hall leading, made the final charge in the sanguinary struggle, losing half its men in killed and wounded. The 14th participated in the seige and battle of Corinth, was with Grant at Vicksburg, with Sherman in the Atlanta campaign, and with that intrepid leader in his memorable march to the sea. The regiment was mustered out at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, Sept. 1865.

Shelby county was also represented in the Fifteenth, Twenty-first, (Gen. Grant's regiment), Twenty-second, Twenty-third, Twenty-sixth and Thirty-first infantry. Twenty-two Shelby county men served in those organizations.

THIRTY-SECOND INFANTRY.

Company E, of this gallant organization was largely made up of Shelby county men—57 men rank and file—Captains A. C. Campbell and W. H. Middleton and Lieutenants Jeremiah and John P. Campbell claiming residence here. The regiment was organized at Springfield, and mustered into the United States service Dec. 31, 1861. Col. John Logan was its first commanding officer. The regiment bore an honorable part in the battle of Shiloh, less than four months after organization, losing forty in killed and two hundred in wounded. After the siege and capture of Vicksburg and the events following, the regiment with the army of the Tennessee reinforced the army of the Cumberland; fought with Sherman through the Atlanta campaign; accompanied him to Savannah, and took part in

HISTORIC SKETCH.

the grand review at Washington, May 24, 1865; thence moved to Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., where muster out took place in Sept. 1865.

THE THIRTY-FIFTH INFANTRY

was organized in Decatur, July 3rd, 1861. Company C was wholly composed of Shelby county boys—some of the best of whom the county could boast. At the battles of Pea Ridge, Stone River, Chickamanga, Kenesaw Mountain and a half score of other engagements, the 35th was in the forefront of battle. In the one bloody encounter at Chickamanga the regiment, with a total of eight officers and 281 men fit for duty, lost in killed and wounded eight commissioned officers and 150 men. The regiment was especially distinguished in the storming and capture of Mission Ridge. The officers of company C were: Captains—James F. Williams, Lewis H. Williams. First Lieutenants—Truman C. Lapham, Otto Fisher. Second Lieutenant—Jesse Nigh.

Benj. F. Smith, of Oconee, was a lieutenant in company B, while the same company contained twenty-two privates from Shelby county, Co. D, 6; Co. F, 3; and Co. K, 8. The regiment was mustered out Sept. 27, 1864, at Springfield.

FORTY-FIRST REGIMENT.

Company H, of the 41st, was a Shelby county company, raised largely through the instrumentality of Hiram Blackstone, who was its first captain. John Huffer, who succeeded to the command after Capt. Blackstone's resignation, Jan. 14, 1862, was killed at Shiloh. He was succeeded by Luther H. Wilber, who died in less than a month after receiving his commission. William F. Turney succeeding him as captain. Capt. Turney lost his good right arm in the bat-

tle of Black River. Lieut. Christopher Cornely was killed in battle—a remarkable series of casualties in company officers. The other officers of the company were First Lieutenants James S. Steen and Daniel M. Turney, Second Lieutenant Henry H. Hardy. Shelby county furnished three men for Co. B, one for Co. D, 15 to Co. E, and one to Co. G.

The regiment was organized at Decatur, August, 1861, by Col. Isaac C. Pugh. Took part in the battles of Forts Henry and Donelson, siege of Corinth, siege and capture of Vicksburg, and battle of Jackson. In the latter engagement the regiment loss was 40 killed and 122 wounded. The regiment was with Sherman through the Atlanta campaign, and with him on his march to the sea. In January, 1865, the 41st was consolidated with the 53rd, forming companies G and H. Was in the grand review at Washington, May 24, 1865, and was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., on the 22nd of July of the same year.

Shelby was also represented in the Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth and Fifty-third regiments.

FIFTY-FOURTH INFANTRY.

This regiment was largely comprised of Shelby county men. Co. H was a Shelby county company, while parts of companies A, G, I, and K, are credited to the county. Shelby furnished the following commissioned officers to the Fifty-fourth: Col. Thomas W. Harris, Lt.-Col. H. M. Scarborough, Captain S. L. Harkey, Lt. Jas. Chapman, Co. F. Also the following officers of Co. H: Captains—Edward Roessler, John P. Fleming, Henry Hart. Lieutenants—John W. Johnson, Andrew J. Ticknor, John M. Hart, J. F. Mautz. The latter was appointed but not mustered. Ben E. Lower, sergeant-major; and Robt. C. Allen, quartermaster sergeant, were also from Shelby.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

The regiment was organized and mustered into service in February, 1862, at Anna, Ill., and a few days later was ordered to Cairo. Thence the command went to Columbus, Ky., and in the following December was ordered to Jackson, Tenn. The regiment took part in the campaign against Haine's Bluff, and formed a part of Gen. Steel's expedition against Little Rock, Ark. In January, 1864, a large part of the regiment re-enlisted and at Charleston, Ill., a portion of the men while on veteran furlough, were attacked by armed copperheads, led by Sheriff O'Hair, and Surgeon York and four privates were killed and Col. Mitchell and a number of men were wounded. In the summer of 1864 six companies of the regiment were captured by the rebels after a brave resistance against an overwhelming force. The four other companies, Co. H, among them, escaped capture. In the fight Lieut. James and thirteen men were killed and thirty-four were wounded. The men thus taken prisoners were paroled at Jacksonport, Ark., and arrived at St. Louis in Sept., 1864. The regiment was mustered out and discharged at Springfield, Ill., Oct. 26, 1865, after nearly four years' service.

Shelby also had brave representatives in the Fifty-ninth, Sixty-first, Sixty-fourth, Seventy-third. Two companies (B and G), which afterward by a trade among the officers became a part of the One Hundred and Fiftieth, were recruited for the Seventy-third, "The Preacher Regiment." Chas. E. Woodward, a Shelbyville man, then as now, served as quartermaster of the Seventy-ninth. A number of Shelby county men also served in the Eightieth, Eighty-first, and Eighty-third. Lewis D. Martin of Shelbyville was lieutenant-colonel of the Ninety-seventh regiment, and was promoted later to the colonelcy, but not mustered. Among the soldiers were twelve Shelby county men, mostly in Co. B.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH INFANTRY.

Two full companies and more than half of another of this regiment were from Shelby.

REGIMENTAL OFFICERS.

Geo. A. Poteet, lieut.-colonel; Richard Holding, appointed chaplain, but because of ill health declined to be mustered; Chas. W. Jerome, quartermaster.

COMPANY OFFICERS.

Co. B—Capt. E. Slocum; Lieuts. Erasmus D. Steen, John Beauchamp, Ezekiel K. Schwartz.

Co. E—Capt. John M. Lane.

Co. F—Capt. Chas. H. Griffith; Lieuts. Matthew Freeman, Jacob Porter, David Reed, and 53 men.

Co. G—Cpts. S. Barlow Espy and John W. Dove; Lieut. John M. Baker. Of these Capt. Espy and Lieut. Porter were killed in battle—the former at Chickamauga while acting as volunteer aid for Gen. W. C. Whittaker; the latter at Resaca, Georgia. Lieutenants Beauchamp and Freeman died of disease in the service.

In the summer of 1862 President Lincoln made a call for 300,000 men, followed a few weeks later by a second for a similar number. The cause of the Union never looked darker: the enemies of the Union were never more arrogant and aggressive. It was clear that the full strength of the nation must be put forth to put down the slave-holders' rebellion. The call of the President electrified the nation from Maine to California, and the response was hearty and strong and from every quarter was heard the battle cry: "We are coming, Father Abraham, 600,000 strong."

The One Hundred and Fifteenth regiment formed a small part of the answer to this call.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Organization took place at Camp Butler, near Springfield in Sept., 1862, and the regiment was ordered to the field a month later. The command was assigned to the Second-Brigade, Second Division, Army of Kentucky, reporting to Gen. A. J. Smith at Covington, Ky., Oct. 6. After two or three months' campaigning in Kentucky the regiment found itself en route by steamer from Louisville to Nashville to reinforce Gen. Rosecrans, and was with that general on the Tullahoma and Chattanooga campaigns, taking a conspicuous part and distinguishing itself at Chickamauga. The second brigade was with Gen. Hooker in his "Battle above the clouds," at Lookout Mountain; was with Gen. Sherman in his Atlanta campaign, and took part in some of the bloody battles which characterized that momentous movement. When Sherman started on his memorable march to the sea, as a part of the Fourth corps, the 115th retraced its steps to Nashville and took no inconspicuous part in the severe fighting at Franklin, and in giving Rebel Gen. Hood's army its final coup de grace at and near Nashville. Inscribed by orders upon the regimental banner were all the principal battles of the Army of the Cumberland from Stone River to Atlanta, and from Atlanta to Nashville.

An incident in the Nashville campaign deserves more than a passing notice. When Hood's legions turned their faces northward after the fall of Atlanta in a desperate endeavor to retrieve their waning fortunes, it was to find Capt. Hymer and 45 brave men of Co. D, of the 115th guarding Buzzard Roost Gap. This gap in the mountains afforded Hood his only chance of a northern exit. This gap was so narrow and the sides of the mountain so abrupt it was impossible for his army to pass without taking the blockhouse which was being held by Capt. Hymer and his men. With his small force, though his instant surrender was demanded, the brave

captain held his post for twelve hours against an army of 6,000 men and 6 pieces of artillery; nor did he give up until half his brave boys were killed and wounded, and the block house was demolished by the furious infantry and artillery fire. On his return from a rebel prison Capt. Hymer was given brevet rank of major by President Lincoln, was voted a medal of honor by Congress and given a commission in the regular army for his heroic defense.

When the war closed the 115th was in east Tennessee en route to Lynchburg, Va., to assist Gen. Grant in winding up the war; was ordered back to Nashville, where, on the 11th of June, 1865, muster out took place.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH.

Shelby's contribution to this regiment was: Capt. Jas. L. Dobson and Lieuts. Isom Simmons, Chas. P. Essick, and Joseph Goodwin, with 44 enlisted men, all in Co. H.

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH.

Three enlisted men in Co. B.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD.

Lieut. Miles W. Hart and twenty enlisted men in Co. D, and two men in Co. H.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIXTH.

Co. K, of the One Hundred and Twenty-Sixth was almost wholly recruited in this county. The officers were: Capt. Alfred A. Francisco, Lieuts. Samuel M. Ewing, Allen Francisco and Wm. K. Ferguson. Seventy-five enlisted men were from Shelby, mostly from the north part of the county. David James, for whom the Findlay Post is named, was a soldier in the 126th.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

The One Hundred and Twenty-sixth regiment was organized at Alton by Col. Jonathan Richmond and mustered into service September 4, 1862.

November 29th the command was ordered to Columbus, Ky., thence to Bolivar, Tenn. On the 25th of March, 1863, they moved to Jackson, Tenn., where the regiment was assigned to the Second Brigade, Second Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, Major-General Hurlbut commanding. From Jackson the regiment moved to Memphis; thence by river to Haines's Bluff, near Vicksburg. The regiment participated in the siege and victory at Vicksburg, in the capture of Little Rock, Ark., and the fight at Clarendon, Ark., June 26, 1864. Muster out took place at Pine Bluff, Ark., June 4th, and July 12th the regiment received pay and were discharged.

MOUNTED TROOPS.

In a county such as this where good horses are the rule rather than the exception, it is not for a moment to be supposed that Shelby would not be well represented in the cavalry arm of the service. Nearly half of company M, of the Third cavalry, were from this county, but the company had for officers men from another part of the state. But wherever they served or under what officers the men from Shelby never turned their backs on duty; no matter how difficult, irksome or dangerous it might be. They always gave a good account of themselves, and those of the Third regiment were no exceptions.

In the Fifth cavalry, one of the best of the army, there were 32 Shelby county men, scattered through two or three companies; the most of them, however, being members of Co. G, and in most cases from the vicinity of Oconee.

Daniel D. Yantis had the honor of being Shelby's sole representative in the Sixth cavalry, and he served only three months.

THE SEVENTH CAVALRY.

But Shelby did have one full company, officers and men, in the mounted service, and every loyal man is proud of Co. H, and its brilliant service. In the fall of 1861 this regiment was organized and mustered into the U. S. service at Springfield. This was Wm. Pitt Kellogg's regiment, and no command did better service or suffered severer hardships than did this. Col. Cyrus Hall was for a time major of the Seventh and resigned to receive the colonelcy of the Fourteenth infantry. The regiment commenced its campaign at Bird's Point, Mo., in Dec. 1861, where its duty was to protect the loyal inhabitants from the rebel armies and guerrillas that infested that country. The regiment accompanied the army guarding its flanks in the campaigns against New Madrid and Island No. 10, after which it moved up the Tennessee with the forces under Gen. Pope to Hamburg Landing and in the direction of Corinth. The regiment formed a part of Col. B. H. Grierson's brigade and took a conspicuous and honorable part in the famous "Grierson's raid." At Franklin the regiment was in the forefront of battle, charging an infantry brigade and driving it across the Harpeth river on the 13th of December, 1864. At Nashville as a part of Gen. Hatch's division, it charged and carried three lines of works and captured thirteen pieces of artillery and a large number of prisoners. On the 14th, another charge was made on the enemy's intrenchments, drove out the rebels and captured many prisoners. During this battle the Seventh lost four commissioned officers seriously wounded—one (Capt. McCausland) mortally, and thirty-six men killed and wounded. The regiment was mustered out at Camp Butler, Nov. 17, 1865, having served four years and three months.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Co. H, of the Seventh, was recruited in Shelby county by Milton L. Webster, Isaac V. D. Moore, Uriah Brant and others. The officers were: Captains—Milton L. Webster and Uriah Brant. Lieutenants—Isaac V. D. Moore, Jacob C. Miller, Henry Voris, Samuel F. Gammill, Samuel A. Kiteh and Michael Freyberger.

In addition to Co. H, Shelby contributed one man to Co. I, and three men to Co. M, of the 7th regiment.

TENTH CAVALRY.

Fifteen men from Shelby marched and fought in the ranks of the Tenth cavalry; Shelby contributed one man (Jacob Wetzel) to the Twelfth cavalry; Lieut. James S. Steen and nine men to the Fourteenth regiment, and two men to the Sixteenth cavalry.

ONE HUNDRED DAY MEN.

In the spring of 1864 the government of Illinois, with other states of the northwest believing the rebellion nearing its close, and desiring to aid the general government in every possible way, tendered the President a volunteer force of several thousand one hundred-day men, to relieve the volunteers from garrison duty. It is common for some to speak in slighting terms of these troops, but Gov. Yates gave them their due meed of praise in these words:

"Our regiments under this call performed invaluable services, relieving garrisons of veteran troops who were sent to the front, took part in the Atlanta campaign, several of them also composing a part of that glorious army that penetrated the very vitals of the rebellion and plucked some of the brightest laurels that this heroic age has woven for a patriotic soldier. *

* * * The President has, by order, returned them the thanks of the government and

the nation for the services they rendered, and accords the full measure of praise to them as our supporters and defenders in the rear, to which the regular reserve force of large armies is always entitled."

THE ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-THIRD INFANTRY

was one of these regiments, and Shelby furnished the colonel, the whole of Co. G, and a part of Co. C. Dudley C. Smith, formerly captain of Co. B, of the Fourteenth regiment, organized the command which was mustered into service at Mattoon, June 11, 1864, and was mustered out Sept. 26, 1864. The following were from Shelby: Co. C—Lieutenant William E. Miller and fifteen enlisted men. Co. G—Captain Philander R. Webster, 1st Lieut. Richard Couch, 2d Lieut. Edward Dunaway, and eighty-five enlisted men.

Most of the regiment's duty was performed in and near Helena, Ark., and the camp and guard duty among the swamps and bayous the men were called to do soon decimated the ranks, and when sent north for muster out nearly half the regiment was unfit for duty.

THE SPANISH AMERICAN WAR.

If the sons of Shelby were loyal to the flag in 1861—5, they were none the less willing to pour out their life's blood when the clash came between the United States and the Kingdom of Spain. The fact that a large proportion of the volunteers in both the army and navy in the Spanish-American war were the sons of the veterans of the great war for the Union, goes to prove that the sons of the present generation are worthy of their sires.

For the Spanish war, Captain W. F. Turney, himself a captain in the Civil war, and who since

HISTORIC SKETCH.

the battle of Black River, in 1863, has carried an empty sleeve, was one of the first in Central Illinois to raise a company and offer its services to the government. It was no fault of the gallant Captain, nor yet of his valorous boys, that their services were not accepted. The company too strong, was fully organized, officered and drilled, but though repeatedly and urgently offered, was not accepted.

This was most unfortunate for all concerned, for many of the boys were fully determined to "go to war," and when their company was finally refused a place the individual members scattered. Some found place to serve their country in the regular service, some enlisted in volunteer regiments, some in one place and some in another. This has made it not only difficult but impossible to give an intelligent account of their goings and doings. But more than half of "Turney's Tigers," as the company was jocosely called, found active service. Some went to the Fourth infantry at Mattoon (Co. H), and saw service in Cuba; some went to Porto Rico with Battery A, First Illinois Artillery; others went with regulars or volunteers to the Philippines, and assisted in compelling the Tagals to acknowledge American sovereignty, while others—at least one or two—formed a part of the gallant American contingent with Gen. Chafee in its heroic work of relieving the beleaguered legationaries in the Chinese capital.

There were enlistments in other parts of the county—a company in Sigel, another in Cowden, with Capt. L. H. Williams at the head, and perhaps elsewhere, but as organizations none of these saw service.

THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Among the orders whose purpose it is to keep alive the lessons of the war for the Union

and care for survivors, their widows and orphans, none takes precedence of the Grand Army of the Republic. This is a semi-secret, non-political order and was organized by Dr. Benj. F. Stephenson, surgeon of the 14th Illinois infantry. Any man who "wore the blue," no matter for how brief a term, and can show an honorable discharge, can become a member and share in all the benefits thereunto pertaining. The members of the order are under obligations to help a comrade in a pecuniary way and to care for him and his in sickness and distress, and a large part of the funds contributed by members are paid out in charity; this in addition to what the government is so generous in doing in Homes for disabled veterans, their widows and orphans.

A Post of the Grand Army was organized in Shelbyville, June 12, 1882. In honor of their distinguished comrade the Post was named Cyrus Hall Post, No. 138, Department of Illinois. Forty-two charter members appended their names to the roll, as follows:

- Wesley Allen, 143rd Ill. Inf.
- Findley Behymer, 115th. Ill. Inf.
- Thos. Beggs, 5th Ill. Cav.
- M. G. Baker, 143rd Ill. Inf.
- E. A. Boone, 126th Ill. Inf.
- Boone Behymer, 9th Ohio Cav.
- Wm. A. Cook, 7th Ill. Cav.
- T. K. Church, 12th Ohio Inf.
- J. P. Davis, 11th Ill. Inf.
- * Harvey Devore, 115th Ill. Inf.
- * Lewis Foreman, 41st Ill. Inf.
- Christopher Fagen, 14th Ill. Inf.
- W. H. Guilford, 20th Conn. Inf.
- Harrison Hart, 7th Ill. Cav.
- Julius Hoppe, 14th Ill. Inf.
- J. B. Isenberg, 3rd Pa. Inf.
- J. H. Johnston, 54th Ill. Inf.
- John R. Johnston, 59th Ill. Inf.
- * David James, 126th Ill. Inf.

HISTORIC SKETCH,

Jasper N. Jarnigan, 14th Ill. Inf.
John E. Kinnee, 122nd Ill. Inf.
Richard Lyons, 14th Ill. Inf.
* J. M. McKibben 46th Ill. Inf.
* John Murdock, 115th Ill. Inf.
Isaac Martin, 54th Ill. Inf.
Thos. E. Morgan, 7th Ill. Cav.
Jas. A. McAllister, 1st Ohio Cav.
Elgin Martin, 115th Ill. Inf.
J. W. Powers, 94th Ill. Inf.
L. H. Parker, 14th Ill. Inf.
Jacob Risacker, 1st Ohio Cav.
Geo. W. Rhoads, 63rd Ind. Inf.
Chas. Rafsnider, 14th Ill. Inf.
Chas. T. Reber, 48th Penn. Inf.
G. A. Stegmayer, 54th Ill. Inf.
* Henry Schane, 14th Ill. Inf.
Jas. H. Shaw, 14th Ill. Inf.
Jas. W. Seott, 115th Ill. Inf.
* David H. Spielman, 43 Ohio Inf.
E. A. Terwilliger, 54th Ill. Inf.
* J. G. Walls, 130th Ohio Inf.
* Louis Winter, 3rd Ill. Cav.
Jas. Whitsel, 208th Penn. Inf.
Chas. E. Woodward, 79th Ill. Inf.
* John Q. Wright, 14th Ill. Inf.
Frank Winson, 7th Ill. Cav.
W. H. Vanderpool, N. Y.

FIRST OFFICERS CYRUS HALL POST.

Post Commander, Chas. F. Reber.
Senior Vice-Commander, Louis Winter. *
Junior Vice-Commander, Lewis H. Parker.
Quartermaster, Chas. E. Woodward.
Surgeon, Geo. W. Rhoads
Adjutant, John W. Powers.
Chaplain, Truman C. Lapham.
Officer-of-the-Day, Findlay Behymer.
Officer-of-the-Guard, Elgin H. Martin.
Outer Guard, John E. Kinnee.

Sergeant-Major, Jas. B. Isenberg.
Quartermaster-Sergeant, Jas. P. Davis. *

The following persons have succeeded each other as Commander:

Chas. E. Woodward, Michael Freybarger, William F. Turney, James T. Weakly, Harrison L. Hart, Wayne Cramer, Elgin H. Martin, Jacob Risacker. Ed. A. Boone is the present Post Commander.

Cyrus Hall Post has done no little service in the way of charity from its Post fund, and has done, and is doing more and more as the passing years render their comrades less and less able to earn a livelihood. The grand commonwealth of Illinois has a law on its statute books forbidding any ex-soldier, his widow or children being sent "over the hill to the poor house," but makes abundant provision for them outside, and makes the Grand Army the distributor of its beneficence. Several hundred dollars were last year distributed by the relief committee of Cyrus Hall Post, and each succeeding year sees the sum increased.

SAMUEL AKIN POST.

This Post was organized in Cowden, April 23, 1886, with seventeen charter members. John D. Collins, of Vandalia, was the mustering officer. The Post officers first chosen were:

Commander, Thos. M. McClanahan.
Senior Vice-Commander, James Mara.
Junior Vice-Commander, John H. Akins.
Adjutant, W. H. Akins.
Quartermaster, Chas. E. Zeigler.
Surgeon, T. J. Fritz.
Chaplain, J. K. Flenniken.
Officer-of-the-Day, W. L. Headen.
Officer-of-the-Guard, L. Sanford.
Sergeant-Major, W. H. Sullivan.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Quartermaster-Sergeant, C. C. Fry.

These with the following were the charter members:

E. J. Holman, Benj. Fletcher, David H. Hobbs, Chas. R. Hooper, Noah Toothman, C. B. Harwood.

At present the elective officers are:

Commander, Chas. E. Zeigler.

S. V. C., James Mara.

J. V. C., T. D. Lamson.

A. D., L. H. Williams.

Chaplain, M. Bechtel.

Surgeon, C. H. Carr.

O. G., C. B. Harwood.

The regular meetings are held the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. At present there is a total membership of 31, most of whom are active in the interests of the order and the well-being of the veterans and their wards.

J. R. TILLEY POST, NO. 304, TOWER HILL, ILL.

The Tower Hill Post was organized June 25, 1883, with 29 charter members. These were:

Com., John E. Lane.

S. V. C., C. M. Ross.

J. V. C., Wm. Eiler.

O. D., Wm. Brownback.

Q. M., A. R. Robinson.

Adj., John Weeks.

O. G., John McConnell.

S. M., T. B. Headen.

Sur., J. L. Brown.

Geo. Eben, J. M. Gross, —— Rogers, L. D. Jester, G. W. Grisso, Jacob Fringer, D. B. Russell, Levi Valentine, Alois Hildebran, J. A. Jones, I. K. Story, J. L. Cannon, Robt. Higginbotham, Levi Lightner, John Sharrock, F. J. Brown, N. W. Lane, John Jones, J. O. Wheeler, J. W. Patrick.

Since the first organization the following persons have held the office of Post Commander:

A. R. Robinson, Wm. Eiler (present commander), I. K. Story, Lewis Eiler, J. J. Connolly, C. P. Roberts, and G. W. Payne.

Since the organization 116 comrades have been received by muster and transfer. Deaths, removals, transfers and discharges have, however, cut this membership down to 55.

DAVID JAMES POST OF FINDLAY.

David James Post, No. 757, G. A. R., was organized at Findlay, Ill., in April, 1893. The charter members were: D. D. Bare, George Dixon, John Underwood, J. M. Underwood, B. F. Tym, C. D. Bare, J. F. Shanks, Wm. H. Francisco, Lafayette Leach, E. K. Schwartz, Wm. Blackstone, Reason Trigg, D. R. Van Reed.

May 9, 1893, the Post was mustered by Capt. Wm. F. Turney, and installed by Col. C. E. Woodward, both officers and past commanders of Cyrus Hall Post, No. 138, Dept. Ill., Shelbyville. E. K. Schwartz was installed as the first commander and held the position till Dec. 1895, when N. B. Elmore was elected and held the command till Dec. 1898, when E. K. Schwartz was again elected and held the command till Dec. 1900. When M. A. Harbert was elected commander, J. F. Shanks and J. T. Gwin-up have been the efficient adjutants; Geo. Dixon faithfully discharged the duty of quartermaster; Samuel B. Melcher has been the faithful chaplain. But two comrades belonging to the Post have died since its organization. The present membership of the Post is twenty, in good standing.

J. V. CLEMENTS POST, MOWEAQUA.

Charter members of J. V. Clements Post, No. 363, Dept. of Ill. G. A. R. are as follows:

HISTORIC SKETCH.

*Robert B. Wilson, *Robert J. Smith, *Jno. W. Greaves—present commander—*James E. Gregory, *David King, J. P. Aydelott, Nathan Francis—chaplain—William H. Pontius, Jas. G. Stewart, *Ambrose Gilliland, John E. Hyde, Jerome LaDow, Edward Tolson, *Fred C. Keitch, Calvin Clark, Thos. C. M. Snow, Samuel Worsham, Randall R. Adams, *I. R. McKay, Charles C. Cowell, Jacob Smith, John Peel, *Walter Humphrey, *H. A. Walker, William Dudley, *Francis Armstrong, *John Clark, John W. Smith.

Those marked with a star (*) have been commanders. R. B. Wilson was chosen commander when post was organized, Nov. 6, 1893. Comrades Stewart, LaDow, Snow, Adams, McKay, Jacob Smith, Dudley and Armstrong have answered the last roll call.

This Post had a most active and efficient Relief Corps, but on the death of Mrs. J. E. Gregory, its beloved president, in 1900, the Corps surrendered its charter.

JOHN HUFFER POST, STEWARDSON.

John Huffer Post, No. 633, Department of Illinois G. A. R., was mustered and the first officers installed July 2, 1887, by Comrade C. E. Woodward, and other comrades of Cyrus Hall Post, Shelbyville. The charter members were: *Henry Temperly, A, 53rd Ill; T. H. McDonald, E, 6th Ind.; C. C. Wilson, F, 2nd O. Art.; Robt. Butcher, G, 70th Ind. Inf.; Samuel Bailey, K, 14th Ill. Inf.; A. E. Harrington, D, 107th Ill. Inf.; *Wm. M. Miller, F, 1st Ohio Cav.; C. H. Storm, C, 135th Ill. Inf.; W. P. Layton, E, 62nd Ill. Inf.; *Uriah Baldwin, A, 54th Ill. Inf.; W. W. Pierce, F, 115th Ill. Inf.; Wm. Temperly, A, 54th Ill. Inf.; H. H. York, A, 51st Ill. Inf.; A. W. Spracklin, I, 51st Ohio Inf.; Reed Wal-

ker, H, 54th Ill. Inf.; W. E. Anderson, D, 53rd Ill. Inf.; Scott McDonald, F, 73rd Ind. Inf.; J. H. Whitaker, E, 17th Ohio Inf.; Henry Dennis, H, 7th Ill. Cav.

(*) Deceased.

Twenty-four recruits have been mustered into the post which now has an active membership of only about twelve. Samuel Bailey is at present Post adjutant.

WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

As an auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic the Woman's Relief Corps was instituted. As its name implies, this organization is composed of women—the widows, wives, sisters and daughters of the ex-soldiers, together with any other loyal woman who might desire to join with them. The purpose of this organization was, and is, to assist in the work of the G. A. R., and to relieve the necessities of the veterans, their widows and orphans. The order has proved most efficient and has commended itself to the people generally.

Cyrus Hall Corps, No. 245, of Shelbyville, was instituted by Mrs. E. R. Kennedy, a department officer of Decatur, March 7th, 1894. Chas. E. Woodward, W. F. Turney and Geo. D. Chafee contributed in means and effort to the organization and have been always among its most steadfast supporters. Among the leaders Mrs. Mary J. Snyder, Mrs. W. F. Turney and Mrs. W. F. Gillmore were among the most earnest and persistent advocates for the foundation of the Corps.

The charter members were: Edna Gillmore, Mollie J. Epler, Jane Turney, Mary E. Bisdee, Emma South, Dora Smith, Mareda Cramer, Nellie Hall, Helen Howard, Martha

HISTORIC SKETCH.

M. Marks, Alice Illhardt, Lillie Westenhaver, Alta Spielman, Alice Martin and Virginia Worley.

Officers for 1894 were:

President, Mary J. Snyder.
Senior Vice-Pres., Jane Turney.
Junior Vice-Pres., Dora Smith.
Treasurer, Frances Seaman.
Secretary, Mollie J. Epler.
Chaplain, Mary E. Bisdee.
Conductor, Addie J. Price.
Guard, Virginia Worley.

Since the organization the following persons have served as Presidents:

Mary J. Snider, Mollie Epler, Mary S. Martin and Emma South.

MOWEAQUA WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

This Corps has been most efficient as an auxiliary of the Moweaqua Post, G. A. R., but was disbanded in April, 1898, on the death of its president, Mrs. Deborah A. Gregory. Mrs. Belle Whitworth was its first president. The members in addition to those named were:

Mesdames, Amarett Clark, Florence Kirker, Martha Bruner, Lizzie Polk, Eliza Graves, Alzira Hays, Rebecca Brown, Edna V. Corrington, Sophia Bury, Addie Frazer, Lillie Snyder, Emma Jones; Misses Gertrude Green, Lulu Bruner, Louella Hilvety, Rose Gregory.

At the time of their disbandment the ladies turned over to the Post \$65 in cash.

SONS OF VETERANS.

Shelbyville also boasts of a Camp of the Sons of Veterans. The purpose of this order is to perpetuate work of the G. A. R.; to take up the work their fathers have prosecuted so long but which in a few short years they will have to lay down. Chas. T. Reber Camp, S. of V., No. 22, was organized March 20, 1894, and named in honor of Dr. Chas. T. Reber, the first Commander of Cyrus Hall Post, G. A. R. The charter members were:

John Agney, Geo. Tuttle, Chas. E. Yencer, Abram Snyder, Thos. Perryman, Hiram Thomas, E. K. Crews, Jas. H. Decker, Marion Coplin, Geo. Crawford, Wm. Stone, David Whitsel, F. L. Rafsnider, Oscar O. Bowman, M. L. Yencer, John T. Reid, Frank Martin, Clarence F. Boone, Joseph Kelly, Edward Pauschert, Reuben Tuttle, E. C. McFadden.

During its existence Chas. T. Reber Camp has had six captains, to-wit: Rufus Tuttle, Jas. H. Decker, Bert Cramer, Chas. T. Worley, J. F. Bair, S. B. Carr.

The present officers (1901) are:

Captain, Sidney B. Carr.
1st Lieut., Fred Geer.
2nd Lieut., Clifton Kinnaman.
Chaplain, John Baldwin.
Q. M. S., Clarence F. Boone.
1st Sergt., Bunn Cramer.
Color Sergt., Harry Dennebarger.
Corporal-of-the-Guard, Wm. Stone.
Camp Guard, Chas. T. Worley.
Picket Guard, Chas. Graves.

RAILROADS—BUSINESS ENTERPRISES—INSTITUTIONS.

CHAPTER XIII.

RAILROADS.

The development of any country is facilitated by the coming of railroads. The shrill cry of the locomotive is far more terrorizing to aboriginal conditions than the crack of the frontiersman's rifle. The railroad brings a vast influx of settlers, giant manufactories, world-wide markets and improvements of every kind; it never comes alone. The transforming power of the steam locomotive is scarcely less marvelous than the fabled changes attributed to the effects of a magical wand. As soon as the tread of the iron-horse is heard, cities and villages spring up as though coming from the ground, natural resources are developed, prairies put under the plow, and even mountain-sides dotted with hamlets.

In the year 1856 the Big Four line was completed. This road extends entirely across the county in a slightly southwesterly direction, entering in Ash Grove township and making its exit at Tower Hill. The completion of this line marked a new epoch in Shelby history. St. Louis and Terre Haute ceased to be the markets for this fertile region; farmers no longer compelled to drive their stock and haul their produce to those distant points, loaded it upon the cars at convenient places along the line. The day of money-making was born! Where only

two cents per pound was received for live-stock and "two-bits" per bushel for wheat, in the greater markets opened by the locomotive, the double of these early prices was soon realized. The needs of the pioneers which heretofore were unsupplied, now began to be provided for, and schools, churches and frame dwellings literally multiplied. The first depot in Shelbyville was, for many years, located in Moulton which at that time was the business part of the city.

The county is now most completely equipped with competing lines which offer direct transportation to all points. These lines are six in number, and weave a network of one hundred and fifty miles of road through the different townships. Few counties are so favored in this regard. The name of one road we have given; the others we subjoin: Illinois Central, Chicago and Eastern Illinois, Wabash, and Clover Leaf.

* * * *

COAL.

Among the business enterprises which are worthy of mention in this volume, the Moweaqua coal mine stands prominently. The mine is owned and controlled by a stock company, of which George A. Kautz is president. The first meeting of the company was on November 27, 1891, and this corporate name was chosen: "The Moweaqua Coal Mining and Manufacturing Company." Since 1898 John Cairns has been superintendent of the mine, and for five years previous to that he was manager of the same.

I. VIEW OF SHELBYVILLE FROM BLUFF SOUTHEAST OF BIG FOUR DEPOT. 2. SHOWING C. & E. I. BRIDGE OVER KASKASKIA.



HISTORIC SKETCH.

There are seven workable veins in the mine which in depth and thickness are as follows:

- No. 1, depth, 540 feet; thickness, 6 feet.
- No. 2, depth, 580 feet; thickness, 6 feet.
- No. 3, depth, 618 feet; thickness, 5 feet 4 in.
- No. 4, depth, 698 feet; thickness, 3 feet 7 in.
- No. 5, depth, 778 feet; thickness, 3 feet 4 in.
- No. 6, depth, 915 feet; thickness, 2 feet 6 in.
- No. 7, depth, 920 feet; thickness 2 feet 4 in.

The shaft is a perpendicular one and the mine is thoroughly equipped with electric machinery for undercutting coal, and is lighted by electricity. The hoisting apparatus is capable of hoisting 1,000 tons per day of eight hours. The vein now being worked is of excellent quality, which affords a ready sale for the entire product. The coal from this mine is shipped to points along the Illinois Central railroad in this state, and also to points in Iowa and Minnesota.

Near the city of Shelbyville there are several coal mines of greater or lesser importance. Amongst the former that of B. F. Stretch, called The Stretch Mine, may be classed. It is located within a half mile northeast of the city, and one shaft is in successful operation. The mine is 112 feet deep, and the width of the vein averages twenty inches. The mining operations there began in 1890, and since that time there have been more and more evidences of a paying quantity of coal. For the year preceding January 1, 1900, sixty thousand bushels were taken out, and it is thought that for this year (1901) one hundred thousand bushels are in sight. Mr. Stretch finds a ready sale for his output in Shelbyville. While there are but about a dozen men employed in this mine at the present time, the day is not far distant when the force will be materially increased because of the larger mass of coal which will be uncovered.

A number of other coal mines are located at intervals along the Kaskaskia north of the city, and are owned by Shelbyville people, amongst whom are Dr. Bowman, M. Brophy and Mr. Widdick.

* * * *

GOLD.

In regard to the finding of this precious metal in Shelbyville, we quote as follows from The Shelby County Leader of April 18, 1901:

"Mr. E. E. Waggoner, mining expert, has been hard at work for some time prospecting along the Kaskaskia, north of this city. He has been in the employ of the Shelbyville Mining and Prospecting company, and now announces that gold has been found in paying quantities.

"The land where the yellow metal is located, is about two miles north of the city on the west side of the river, on the farm of Lawson Killam. Mr. Waggoner's opinion is that there are two million tons of ore. He has made ninety assays, which show an average value of over \$4 per ton, and going as high as \$12.60 a ton. After the expenses of mining are paid there will still be a profit of about \$2 per ton, which will be a pretty good thing for the owners.

"With the machinery which will be put in at once from 250 to 300 tons can be handled in a day of 24 hours. The machinery will include a crusher and amalgamating plant, and probably a cyanide plant will be added. This latter is not to save the lead and silver, though these metals are found there in small quantities, but is for the purpose of saving the fine gold which cannot be secured in the ordinary way.

"The stockholders are all Shelbyville men, most of them working men and will push this work with vigor. It is said that the precious

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metal was also found on the Barker place, one mile west of Lithia Springs, and also on Dr. Bowman's farm, where the quality is good, but not found in great quantities."

* * * *

GAS AND OIL.

It is the opinion of a competent expert that a great portion of Shelby county is underlaid with gas and oil. In confirmation of this opinion, these, particularly the former, have been found within the county.

Early in 1901 a company began work near Findlay, where for several years past gas has been found in quantities sufficient to be used for fuel and lighting purposes by the farmers upon whose land it was discovered. Up to the present (April) the explorations have resulted in proving that there is gas in great quantities, and every prospect for a large flow of oil as soon as a sufficient depth is reached. The operators have met with several mishaps in the breaking of their machinery, which have delayed their work so that no definite statement can be made at the present. But residents of Shelby and contiguous counties may confidently hope to be supplied with these commodities in the near future.

* * * *

THE STAR MILLS.

In 1867 the largest flouring mill in the west was erected in Shelbyville by the late Charles C. Scovil. Prior to this time Mr. Scovil had owned and operated a mill in a frame building on the present site of the First National bank, and on the lots in the rear of the same he conducted a saw mill and lumber yard. The mill erected by

him as aforesaid, is a large brick structure, still standing, and now leased by the Great Northwestern Hat Manufacturing company. The cost of the building was \$85,000, but a number of years afterward, when it ceased to be a particularly paying investment, it was disposed of for \$35,000.

* * * *

HAT FACTORY.

A manufacturing industry which will undoubtedly be within a short period of time, the largest concern in Central Illinois, is the Northwestern Hat Manufactory, which is to be located in Shelbyville in the immediate future. The industry will be located in the Star Mills building, mentioned above, and at this writing several carloads of machinery are en route to the city.

The output of the factory is to be one hundred dozen hats per day from the start, with about one hundred workmen; but it will soon be increased to three hundred dozen per day, when between three and four hundred people will be employed. This will be a splendid thing for Shelby county, and other factories are sure to follow.

* * * *

HANDLE FACTORY.

Shelbyville is also in possession of another paying industry—the Handle Factory—belonging to Geo. F. and C. D. Nehr. This factory was established in 1880. Handles for implements of all descriptions are made, and a general milling business is also carried on. About fifty men are given steady employment by this company.

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BROOM FACTORY.

Another young, but promising industry, worthy of prominent mention, is the Shelbyville Broom Factory, of Anglin & Boys Brothers. This factory has been in operation for a few weeks, at this writing, with a capacity of thirty dozen brooms per day. All styles and grades of brooms are manufactured. More machinery will be added as required, and ere long this will be one of the leading business enterprises of this section of the country.

The flouring mill once owned and operated by the Farmers' Mutual Benefit association, is now the property of J. E. Jacobs, and still running. For many years the association flourished in this county, and this mill was one of the most important in this section.

Tower Hill has a canning factory which furnishes a good market for all sorts of products used by such an establishment. Stewardson has a large grain elevator, as has Windsor, also; the latter being one of the largest in this part of Illinois.

Lack of space demands that we give but brief mention of the business enterprises of the county, and this accounts for the fact that some which are perhaps as deserving of mention as those about which we have written, are omitted. This is also true of the

* * * *

INSTITUTIONS.

Of these we write as fully as possible, however.

BANKS.

The First National Bank of Shelbyville, is the oldest bank in the county, having been or-

ganized in 1873. The first president was O. S. Munsel, and the first vice-president was Philo Parker. In 1876 Abram Middlesworth was elected president, and has retained the position to the present time. J. W. Powers has been the cashier since the inception of the bank.

The capital stock of the First National is \$75,000, and the surplus, \$25,000. It is one of the safest monetary institutions in the county.

The Shelby County State bank was organized by a stock company in 1895. Philo Parker is president of the bank, John A. Tackett, vice-president, and O. W. Walker, cashier since its organization.

The bank of Volney Snyder & Company, a private bank at Moweaqua, was established in 1874, and ever since has enjoyed the patronage and confidence of a great many in the northern part of the county. This was the first bank in that section of Shelby.

Another banking institution of Moweaqua is that organized in 1892 under the name of Keller, Brown & Company. In 1899 it was changed to Keller, Ayars & Company, but in the recent past Mr. Ayars withdrew from the firm, Keller continuing the business himself. D. P. Keller is one of the best known and most highly respected men of Shelby county. This is also a private bank.

Upon withdrawing from the above mentioned company Ralph Ayars formed a partnership with his brother, and still continues a

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general banking business under the name of Ayars Brothers. He is a native of Moweaqua, and was cashier of the Keller, Ayars & Company bank until recently. He has the confidence of a wide acquaintanceship and will have his share of patronage in his line.

A general banking business is conducted at Stewardson, by David Mautz, who founded the Stewardson bank in 1893. This institution is a great financial accommodation to the southern part of the county.

Windsor has its bank, called the Commercial State bank. The president is Thomas Collison, and the cashier is A. T. Collison, who is assisted by A. C. Crays. The capital stock is \$30,000.

Findlay has a private bank, the Merchants' and Farmers' bank, of which James Dazey is president and J. E. Dazey cashier.

Cowden also has a monetary institution. D. D. Brownback, president, and B. E. Prater, cashier, do a general banking business.

* * * *

SHELBYVILLE CHILDREN'S HOME.

"There are two things which should not be: a child without a home—a home without a child."

Acquiescence in this charming sentiment has found a beautiful expression in the action

of Mr. Abram Middlesworth, who has given to the Illinois Children's Home and Aid society a magnificent property in the City of Shelbyville, with but one condition attached—that is shall be used, "as a home for orphan and indigent children under the control and management of the society." This is the most valuable gift ever received by the society.

The Middlesworth Home is the third to be used as a receiving home, the others being located in the northern and southern extremities of the state: "The Englewood Nursery," at Chicago, and the Van Arsdale Home, near Du Quoin. The two last named, however, are not the actual property of the Children's Home and Aid society, but are owned and directed by associations which care for wards of the Society; though the principal part of the expense incurred in the maintenance of the two Homes is provided for by the Society.

The Home which is the subject of this sketch is admirably adapted to the purpose for which it is intended, that of serving as a temporary refuge only for children from the central part of the state who may be received by the Society. It is a fixed policy of the Association to place its children in good homes with as little delay as possible; therefore the average stay of children in this institution will doubtless not exceed four weeks.

The property donated by Mr. Middlesworth consists of a beautiful tract of about four acres overlooking the city, upon which are a large brick dwelling house, a wooden cottage and a good barn. The house contains ten large rooms which will accommodate in comfort at least twenty children besides the necessary caretakers. The cottage is to be used as a receiving cottage, where it will be possible to quarantine the in-



THE MIDDLESWORTH HOME, SITEELBYVILLE.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

coming children, thereby reducing to the minimum the danger of introducing contagious diseases into the Home. Heretofore it has been necessary to transport children from the center to the two extremes of the state at a great cost to the society, and this Home meets an urgent need.

The intrinsic value of the gift does not represent its true worth. It must be remembered that it was the home of Mr. Middlesworth; the home in which he spent many years with the beloved wife who has preceded him to the life beyond; the home around which are gathered some of the dearest and most precious memories of his life. Such is the gift so generously handed over to the Children's Home and Aid society by this noble man, to be used by it as a nursery in which to nurture and tenderly care for the precious flowers given to earth. It is a thank offering, a gift of gratitude to the Almighty for the great measure of spiritual and temporal prosperity received by the donor from His hand; and in the giving of it, Mr. Middlesworth, the humble, unpretentious servant whom many will arise and call blessed, and who has, by his many acts of kindly generosity, gladdened many hearts, was actuated by the desire to render unto the Lord something of value. Surely he will receive the reward promised unto those who minister unto "the least."

Our review of the Middlesworth Home would be decidedly incomplete should we not recount something of what has been accomplished by this institution.

The matron of the Home is Mrs. Annie M. Wilcox, a lady of rare tact and ability, and eminently fitted for the important and complicated duties which devolve upon her. She was formerly the superintendent of the Du Quoin district of the Illinois Children's Home and Aid

society, and by unremitting though judicious effort succeeded in raising for the society between seven and eight thousand dollars, securing \$3,814.99 in less than four years' time. She it was who raised the money, \$2,500, to pay for the Van Arsdale Home at Du Quoin. During the past six years, Mrs. Wilcox has received, in behalf of the society, and sent out to desirable homes about 700 children. To be more explicit, there were not 700 different children; but many of those placed in families have been returned to the Home, thereby making it necessary to find new homes for them. This, it will readily be understood, was just as great a task as placing them at first, and so it is the same as though 700 different children had found homes through the efforts of Mrs. Wilcox.

In entering upon her work in the Middlesworth Home, in May of this year, she was accompanied by Miss Barre, also of Du Quoin, and who is her very able assistant. Since the opening of the work here—May the 8th—sixty-two children have been received in the succeeding five months. Many of these have been placed in good homes; some are still at the receiving Home, where they find kindly care and attention given by the loving hearts who are in charge. The average number of children being cared for each month is twenty-two. Besides the two ladies already mentioned, a nurse is employed to care for the tender little babes, of which there are several in the Home. Three of the children are in school, and not a Sabbath has passed without the inmates of the Home being taken to one of the churches to Sabbath school and preaching service; so that not only are their temporal needs supplied, but the spiritual and intellectual natures are by no means neglected.

The financial condition of the society is not such as will warrant any unnecessary expendi-

HISTORIC SKETCH.

tures, so all baking, washing and ironing is done at the Home, and the whole institution is carried on with no more expense than is really necessary for the absolute needs. The rooms are comfortably and tastefully furnished, a number of them being furnished by various churches, societies and other organizations of Shelby county. Some very useful and needed articles have come from Chicago firms, showing a generosity and kindly interest in this great work. A new furnace has been placed in the Home. Apropos of this, we quote from an article by Mrs. Wilcox, in the October number of "The Children's Home Finder": "One lad is not convinced that he can warm his feet over a lot of little holes strung together in the floor. Another wants to know if we will 'bake bread in it?' Another thinks it a very funny thing to 'dig a hole in the ground to put a big stove in.'" Precious childhood, and its innocence!

We quote another paragraph from the same article—an appeal to men and women to receive and care for the little lads, as readily as they do the girls, who need good homes: "God help us to see that the prosperity of our own loved ones, as they come to the estate of manhood and womanhood, hinges close upon what we do now for this multitude of embryo rulers! Oh, for the love which said, 'Suffer the children to come, etc.,' to permeate the lives of those whom God has blessed with homes and plenty! I hear the broken voice of a lad saying to me, 'Mamma Wilcox, why don't folks like us boys?' and I look into eyes full of tears and think, and think, 'what can I do for the boys!'. A beautiful baby in our infant-room enjoys the constant care of a faithful nurse; but the baby is a girl. Somebody will want her soon, and love will open heart and home for her, and life will be full of beauty and promise, because it is a girl. And

these others will rise up in judgment and say, 'Ye did it not unto me.' Friends of humanity, let us change our tactics and do good unto these lads. I should think the men would be more interested in them, but, I suppose, these busy old duffers forget that they were boys once, and needed friends. At least they act like it—poor old souls, without any of the 'milk of human kindness flowing in their breasts!' Oh, for a prophetic vision to show them how their 'heirs apparent' are longing for their demise that the wealth so hardly acquired shall fall to their easy handling: And then what? Instead of the brave perpetuator of a good man's name, there will be a crumbling of all that he cherished, and the end will be as if he had never lived, and nobody to thank him for anything. I would not be such a man if I could, and I could not if I would, thank heaven!"

In the September number of the Home Finder, Mrs. Wilcox writes: "What is the matter with people? If I wished to rear a lasting, self-perpetuating monument to myself, I would have a boy—somebody's boy—to bring through the ills, trials, temptations and tantrums of boyhood into a practical, common sense, christian manhood, feeling confident all the time that the more tantrums he had during the process, the clearer cut would be his aims as a man. His 'heredity' would not bother me a minute either—not a minute. The Middlesworth Home wants good homes for boys, then more good homes for boys, then more, and a washing-machine to help keep their clothes clean, and a good wringer as an assistant, and a large lawn swing for the boys, and a tent, and anything else that any man, or men, can remember of liking in boyhood. Oh! we draw the line at guns, firecrackers and drums—yes, very decidedly at drums!"

Thus, under the capable management of

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this good woman, the work of the Middlesworth Home is being carried on. Indigent children are being received, and then placed in good homes, where they will grow up to pure and lovely womanhood and manhood—"saved from pauperism, vagabondage and crime." It is a work which should elicit the sympathy and interest of all who have a corner in their heart for the "little ones;" and it is a matter of congratulation that more and more of the good people of this part of the state are rallying to the support of "The Middlesworth Home."

Since the preceding sketch was prepared for this volume quite an important change has been wrought in the management of the Home. Mrs. Annie M. Wilcox, referred to above, who so faithfully and tenderly cared for the little ones committed to her care, resigned her position as matron, and removed to Fresno, California. She did not grow weary of this work, but failing

health here, and the more agreeable climate of California were factors which induced her to make the change. Though the managers of the Home were loth to part with Mrs. Wilcox, they congratulate themselves on being able to secure so worthy a successor in the person of Mrs. Anna R. Simmons.

Mrs. Simmons is an organizer of the National W. C. T. U., a lady of rare gifts as a platform lecturer, and has a charm of manner and address which at once endear her to those who make her acquaintance. She has a large heart, in which there is plenty of room for each of the twenty-six unfortunate little inmates of the Home; and they receive from her a mother's love and care.

The swing and the furnace and some other things for which Mrs. Wilcox asked have been added, but still there is great need for hearty support from the friends of the Home, in order for all the wants of the orphaned children to be supplied.

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SHELBYVILLE CHAUTAUQUA AND SHELBY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION.

J. C. Westervelt, Pres't.
W. E. Walker, Vice-Pres.
G. A. Roberts, Sec'y.
Chas. E. Keller, Treas.
T. F. Dove, Cor. Sec'y.

DIRECTORS—

J. D. Miller,	T. F. Dove,
J. B. Isenberg,	G. A. Roberts,
J. C. Westervelt,	W. O. Wallace,
W. E. Walker	W. S. Middlesworth,
	W. S. Beem.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—

J. C. Westervelt,	W. E. Walker,
J. B. Isenberg,	T. F. Dove.

STOCKHOLDERS—

J. B. Isenberg,	John D. Miller,
J. C. Westervelt,	H. J. Hamlin,
Peter Diddea,	S. A. Richardson,
C. L. Wagner,	W. H. Beem,
T. F. Dove,	E. A. Richardson,
S. W. Conn,	H. M. Martin,
C. E. Keller,	W. S. Middlesworth,
E. J. Scarborough,	B. S. Yost,
Anthony Thornton,	Lee Mook,
Wm. H. Ragan,	G. W. Cook,
W. E. Walker,	John A. Tackett,
W. O. Wallace,	Henry A. Stewardson,
Max Kleeman,	Geo. A. Roberts,
O. W. Walker,	J. W. Igo,
W. B. Sturgis,	J. A. Montgomery.

Shelbyville Chautauqua, July 25 to August 4th,
11 days; County Fair, September 10—15,
5 days.

The attractions at the "Old Fair Grounds"
will, during this current year (1901), be un-

rivaled. The property is now in the hands of thorough business men who will spare neither time nor means in making the revivifying of a nearly defunct fair historic occasions in the annals of Shelby County. The grounds will be improved and completely renovated, buildings will be erected, etc. Ample arrangements for the comfort of the people will be provided. The announcements concerning the fair cannot now be made, but remember the date! The following list of noted talent will furnish some idea of the intellectual treat to be furnished by the Chautauqua:

Dr. Nacy McGee Waters, of Binghamton, N. Y., will be platform manager. Dr. Walters lectured in Shelbyville in the last lecture course. Following is an incomplete program of talent now positively secured. This is, of course, subject to change:

July 25—Afternoon not filled; evening—Elias Day, Arion Ladies' Quartet all day.

July 26—Afternoon—Ralph Parlette, humorist; evening—Arion Ladies' Quartet.

July 27—Afternoon—Ralph Parlette, Olaf Krarer, the Esquimau; evening—Arion Ladies' Quartet and Stanley Davies, elocutionist.

July 28—Morning—Dr. Walters; afternoon—Rev. Sam P. Jones; evening—sacred concert by Arion Ladies' Quartet.

July 29—Afternoon—Olaf Krarer; evening—Carter, the magician, and Arion Quartet.

July 30—Afternoon—Gen. John B. Gordon; evening—Dr. Walters, Stanley Davies and Arion Quartet.

July 31—Afternoon—Mrs. Maud Booth; evening—Arion Quartet.

August 1—Morning—Dr. M. C. B. Mason; afternoon—Hon. John Barrett; evening—Mendelssohn Male Quartet; Sybil Sammis and Geo. Kurtz.

August 2—Morning—Dr. M. C. B. Mason; afternoon—Gen. Howard; evening—Mendelssohn Quartet, Sybil Sammis and Geo. Kurtz.

August 3—Afternoon—Engene V. Debs; evening—Dr. Walters, Mendelssohn Quartet, Stanley Davies.

August 4—Dr. Walters, Mendelssohn Quartet. Season Tickets for only \$1.50. General Admission 25 Cents.

ECCLESIASTICAL WORK IN SHELBY COUNTY.

CHAPTER XIV.

The Ecclesiastical History of Shelby county is one of the most important features of this volume, and it is with profound regret we are unable to give a more complete resume of that work. But it is exceedingly difficult to compile data from which to write a comprehensive sketch of the ecclesiastical history of a church. While many of those interested in any church society may have considerable general information in regard to the same, still when it comes to statistical facts and figures they cannot give them. However, with the kindly assistance of pastors and others, we are enabled to give much interesting matter relative to various denominations which exist and are doing noble work within Shelby county. Others promised their assistance, but from some cause failed to render the needed help.

THE PRESBYTERIAN.

(By Rev. B. W. Tyler.)

The history of Presbyterianism in Shelby county is like the history of individuals and of families. It chronicles birth, growth, death, new generations, failures and successes, adversities and prosperities. But the influence of Calvinism has touched several important sections of the county and has left its impress of sturdy christian manhood and womanhood, and

an evangelical faith conquering and to conquer. One of the children to die at an early age was the Walnut Grove church, organized in 1839, with Amos P. Balch and Tobias Rainer, as elders, by Rev. Jno. McDonald. The name was changed to "McCluskey" by the Presbytery, Sept. 28, 1843. It was situated in T. 11, R. 5 E. Robert Rutherford ministered to this people for a time, but it has long been extinct.

A more hardy child was the Prairie Bird church in T. 12 N., R. 3 E. S. 19, SE quarter, in the little village of that name. The church site, which included a cemetery, contained two acres. The organization had its birth April 8, 1860. There were 26 members at the beginning, drawn largely from Shelbyville church. All three of the first elders, Daniel Ewing, George B. Hill and George Griggs, were from the parent church. Its history was one of many changes, caused largely by removals and death. The pulpit supply was usually arranged in conjunction with Tower Hill. Those who were left, becoming discouraged some few years ago, gave up the organization, many of them uniting with the Evangelical Association church in an adjoining neighborhood.

But there were hardier children and they survive. The eldest of these is the strongest—the First church of Shelbyville.

SHELBYVILLE CHURCH.

There have been two organizations in Shelbyville. Under the Old School Presbytery of Palestine, twelve members organized a church

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in the Court House, July 31, 1843. The ministers in charge of the beginning were Rev. Joseph Platt and Rev. J. S. Reasoner. Two elders were chosen, namely, David Ewing and James Elder. The only supply was the Rev. Mr. Platt, who during one year visited the church once every six weeks, spending four or five days on each occasion. Only once or twice was it represented in Presbytery, and all of the records were lost. It was dissolved by Presbytery in session at Charleston, April 2d, 1852.

The present church was organized under the New School Presbytery, in a barn at Prairie Bird, June 30, 1851, by Rev. Bilius Pond and Rev. Elisha Jenney, with these members: Robert Burke and Esther Burke, his wife; David Ewing and Evelyn Ewing, his wife; Adam Fulton and Elizabeth Fulton, his wife; George Hill and Elizabeth Hill, his wife; Mrs. Martha Weakly, Mrs. Sarah Campbell, Mrs. Jane Fickner, Mrs. Nancy Ogden, Mrs. M. H. Moulton, Miss Mary H. McIver, Miss Sarah Hill, Mrs. Sarah Breckenridge, Miss Mary Ann Burke and Miss Mary Ann Eversole. The official body of the church has always been composed of able men. Those who have served the church as elders are as follows: David Ewing, June 30, 1851—April 7, 1860; Jan. 4, 1872—March 13, 1885. George Hill, Feb. 7, 1852—April 7, 1860; Sept. 10, 1882—July 14, 1895. Jno. D. Amlin, Feb. 27, 1857—Aug., 1858. John Hunter, Nov. 21, 1858—April 2, 1865. George Griggs, Nov. 21, 1858—April 7, 1860. George Hannaman, April 7, 1860— —. Robt. Carnes, April 7, 1860—March 20, 1869. Ebenezer Cheney, April 10, 1864—Aug. 12, 1871. Lindsay McMorris, March 11, 1866—Jan. 24, 1891. Thos. H. West, March 11, 1866— —. James D. Hunter, Jan. 4, 1872—1897. J. F. Gowdy, Sept. 10, 1882—Jan., 1884. Bradford P. Dearing, Jan. 6, 1884—

—. Horace L. Martin, Jan. 6, 1884— —. Hiram M. Scarborough, Jan. 1, 1894— —. Thos. H. Shivers, Jan. 1, 1894—July 18, 1898. Julius F. Christman, March 28, 1897—March 29, 1900. There were never but two directors chosen, Messrs. James D. Hunter and Geo. G. Dearing having been ordained to that office March 11, 1866.

The history of the church clusters around the following stated supplies and pastors: Rev. J. M. Grant, who took charge at the time of the organization and continued to labor here until his death from cholera, Aug. 1, 1855; Rev. J. Wilson, 1856—1859; Rev. W. P. Ormsby, 1860—1861; Rev. James B. Sheldon, 1861—1862; Rev. Timothy Hill, D. D., 1862—1865; Rev. David Diamond, D. D., 1865—1866; Rev. R. D. Van Duersen, D. D., 1867—1871; Rev. L. I. Root, 1871—1874; Rev. Benjamin Mills, D. D., 1874—1877; Rev. W. C. West, 1878—1882; Rev. H. S. Jordan, D. D., 1883—1885; Rev. Ed. Carleton Bell, D. D., 1885—1886; Rev. W. J. Frazer, D. D., 1886—1890; Rev. W. H. Lloyd, 1890—1897; Rev. J. N. Beall, 1897—1899; Rev. B. W. Tyler, 1900— —.

The first house of worship stood one block west of the present site and on the opposite side of North First street. It was a frame building erected in 1856 or 1857, at a cost of six hundred dollars. The present house was erected in 1864 at a cost of \$5,500 and is a substantial brick building with main audience room and gallery upstairs; lecture room, class room, office and kitchen in the lower story.

This was modernized and entirely renovated in 1892, at a cost of \$6,500; while an additional expense of about \$2,000 was put on it in 1900, the chief addition being a handsome pipe-organ of superior sweetness and power. In 1899 the congregation built a commodious and elegant manse on the rear of the church lot, which has

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all the modern improvements. This at a cost in building of \$3,000.

Shelbyville church has always been a conservative body, thoroughly loyal to the doctrines and traditions of the denomination. Her members have been abundant in good works, all of the missionary agencies of the church being liberally sustained. A prosperous Sunday School, a working Christian Endeavor, a very large and enthusiastic Woman's Missionary Society, look after these varied needs and interests; while a hard-working Aid Society has been instrumental in bringing about these improvements.

As an outside benevolence, is the Middleworth Orphans' Home, given to the Children's Home Society of Illinois by Mr. Abram Middleworth, a member of this church.

WEST OKAW CHURCH,

located at Prairie Home, in the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of S. 34, T. 14 N., R. 3, E. of 3d P. M., sprang into existence October 20, 1860. In the midst of a very rich farming community, and surrounded by wealthy farmers with Presbyterian tendencies and antecedents, it soon rose to a place of prominence. Those whose names appear on the roll as charter members, are G. M. Thompson, Eliza Thompson, Margaret Thompson, Harriet N. Thompson, Samuel G. Travis, Anna B. Travis, Alice Lay, Catherine E. Travis, Mary Foster, Harris B. Thompson, Elizabeth Thompson, Robt. Lay, J. J. Freeland, Mary B. Freeland, Catherine Freeland, Sarah G. Freeland, Mary Wingett, Ann Berg, Henry Berg, F. M. Chamberlain, Ann E. Chamberlin, Eleanor Gray, Mercey H. Bacon, Emily J. Richardson, James S. Travis. To these were soon added many others, so that after a few years there was found in this country church a property, consisting of a frame building with

cemetery adjoining, and a two story, frame parsonage, one half mile south—the whole being worth \$5,000. A salary of \$1,000 was paid the minister and the use of the manse. But losses by death and removal to the cities leaving a community of changing renters with varied or no beliefs, has weakened the church until now it is a great struggle to keep it moving. The salary has been cut to \$500; the membership is only about 80, but it is the candle still lighted in that community and through its Sunday School, Christian Endeavor and church services is teaching the strong doctrines of the faith for the making of manhood and womanhood.

The elders in charge since the founding have been Gardner M. Thompson, John J. Freeland, Samuel G. Travis, Henry Berg, F. M. Chamberlain, William Bard, James G. Marshall, James L. Neil, Nelson V. Stine, William McBurney, Frederick Orris, S. T. Milliken, J. H. Baird, John Steward—the last three constituting the present session. The ministers laboring here have been H. R. Lewis, two years; Clark London, six years; J. D. Jenkins, two years; Julius Spencer, 3 years; William E. Lincoln, J. N. Wright, O. P. Galloway, M. F. Paisley, David McCracken. A debt is owed this church by the stronger churches in this and other states, for the earnest workers it has, and is still, furnishing them by removal of its members.

Two other churches were organized at about the same time—Those at Tower Hill and Mo-waeaqua.

TOWER HILL.

The First Presbyterian church of Tower Hill was organized by Rev. A. T. Norton and Rev. William P. Teitsworth, February 17, 1867, with these members: Sylvester L. Van Dyke, Mrs. Lucy A. Van Dyke, Thomas B. Johnson, William McKittrick, Mrs. Margaret McKittrick,

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Mrs. Susannah B. Baines, Dr. George W. Fringer, Mrs. Martha B. Fringer, Mrs. Caroline Everitt, Perry McDowell, Miss Celestia A. Van Dyke, Francis McKittrick, Samuel McKittrick, Miss Mary A. Baines, Miss Francis J. Baines, and James M. Cook. The church came under the care of Wabash Presbytery, although temporarily received by that of Alton. The elders have been, Sylvester L. Van Dyke, Thomas B. Johnson, Dr. George W. Fringer, James J. Wiley, Frederick Stumpf, H. H. R. Baines, S. P. Powers, Dr. John Morgan, H. F. Faught, Robt. Fleming, Jacob Leighty, Stephen Richards, A. A. Eiler, A. A. Leighty and William McKittrick. The present session is composed of Messrs. Fleming, Eiler and Stumpf.

The following ministers have preached for this people, G. A. Pollock, one year; Nathaniel Williams, one year; J. D. Jenkins, one year; Adam Johnston, eleven years; Leonard Keeler, two years; Thos. S. Park, five years; N. C. Green, two years; and G. D. Smith, who is now on his second year. The house of worship is a substantial frame building, erected in 1867, at a cost of \$1,800. An addition has since been built at an expense of \$600. About 1896 a parsonage was built at a cost of \$1,500. So that the plant is a good one. The membership is now about 80. The difficulty in the way is the continual removal of members to other points, thus keeping the church weak. Its influence in the community is fully equal to any other and its Sunday School, Young People's and Woman's Missionary Societies well sustained.

MOWEAQUA.

The Presbyterian church at Moweaqua was organized May 18 and 19, 1867, by a committee consisting of Rev. S. W. Mitchell, Rev. Clark London and Elder S. H. Wilson. There were thirteen members in the organization. The el-

ders chosen were Lewis Long and F. M. Chamberlain. During the first four years of its existence, it may truthfully be said that the promise was to "the little flock." With no house of worship, with only a small band of workers, yet with the Spirit of God in their midst, they labored together. The only regular service was a weekly prayer-meeting, held in the homes of the faithful few. Those who were privileged to be present at the services bear testimony to the presence of the Lord and gracious benedictions which came upon them all. An occasional preaching service was held in the M. E. church. But in 1872, this little band, assisted by the Board of Church Erection, rejoiced in the erection and dedication of a neat and comfortable frame church home, at a cost of \$3,500. Immediately after this forward step a gracious revival was experienced, and the church was very prosperous, being as strong as any in the community. But a period of decline followed. Family after family of the Presbyterian household of faith left the city, and the church has never regained its former footing. Still with a membership of about 40, tried and true, there is maintained a flourishing Sabbath school, prayer-meeting, Christian Endeavor and Woman's Missionary Society. The church is surely of the Lord's own planting, and can know no such thing as death. The present elders are Thomas Hudson and R. B. Wilson.

One other church, that of

BETHANY,

situated near Yantisville, seven miles directly north of Tower Hill, has taught Calvinism in that part of the county. Never a strong organization, during its thirty years of existence, averaging about 30 to 40 members. It too, has sent out to the towns and cities various additions to their working force. An excellent brick

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building, erected some years ago, affords a comfortable church home, and a band of devoted members, mostly women, keep up a steady effort for righteousness. Brighter prospects, under the Illinois plan of Home Missions, are in view for this faithful little band of loyal workers.

Thus no small part was played by Presbyterians in this county's history. The names of those associated with the beginnings of the churches and their official bodies are names of persons prominent in the forces which counted for development along the best lines. The ministers laboring in these fields have been men of God, and their influence has been almost measureless in these formative days of the past. Building on such a history there surely is a future for Presbyterianism in Shelby county.

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ST. PAUL'S REFORMED.

(By Rev. John F. Bair.)

Saint Paul's Reformed church, located five miles northwest of Shelbyville, was organized about 1850, by Rev. John McConnel. Until 1859 the congregation had a struggle for an existence. In 1859, Rev. H. K. Baines was elected pastor. The church has been served by the following pastors: Rev. O. E. Lake, Rev. H. Wilson, Rev. S. P. Myers, Rev. J. F. Butler, Rev. J. Wolbach, Rev. J. W. Alspach, Rev. L. C. Summer, Rev. R. F. Oplinger and Rev. J. F. Bair.

For many years the congregation faced many discouragements, but like their brave founder, Ulrich Zwingli, they did not give up in despair, but pushed bravely on. Under the leadership of Rev. J. W. Alspach from 1892 until

his death in 1897 the congregation prospered perhaps more than at any other period in its history previous.

When the present pastor, Rev. J. F. Bair took charge of the field in the spring of 1898, he found it in good condition. The membership numbered 75, and there was a good Sunday School which was progressing rapidly under the earnest care of Superintendent John F. Runkel.

During the pastorate of Rev. Bair 21 members have been added to the congregation, and a neat, new church edifice has been erected which was dedicated Dec. 17, 1899, free of debt. The oldest member of the congregation is Mrs. John Runkel, now in her 86th year. Other old members who have made this their church home for many years are: John Runkel, Sr., Joseph Hish, Sr., Mrs. Joseph Hish, A. J. Tice, Mrs. A. J. Tice.

The statistics presented at the last regular meeting of Illinois Classes show the following figures: Members, 95; communed during year, 87; unconfirmed, 50; infant baptisms, 6; adult baptisms, 1; confirmed, 15; contributions for benevolence, \$93.47; contributed for congregational purposes, \$1,330; church papers taken, 40; Sunday school officers and teachers, 16; scholars, 75; total, 91; average attendance, 61; number of months school is open, 12; scholars in full membership of the church, 63; baptized scholars, 69; scholars received into full membership of the church during the year, 14; contributions to all purposes, \$54.

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THE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

(By Elder William H. Drummet.)

The treasures of every people are traced in its history. There is an instinct if not a trans-

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scendent link that binds us irrevocably to the past. Webster says that "there is a moral and philosophical respect for our ancestors which elevates the character and improves the heart. Next to the sense of religious duty and moral feeling I hardly know what should bear with stronger obligation on a liberal and enlightened mind than a consciousness of alliance with the excellencies of the past." In no one phase of human activity can this sentiment be more true than in the conscious alliance with the excellence of the religion of our Lord and Master. This alliance or the lack of it enters into every community life, shapes its character and determines its destiny.

True religion is of God. In fact we get the word "religion" from the word "ligio," which means "to bind," to bind back again to God. In other words religion is the link that "binds" man to God.

The fundamental principles of the christian religion are found in the New Testament revealed by the Christ, the Son of God, and "confirmed unto us by them that heard Him." These fundamental principles (divinely authorized) made unprecedented progress during the early centuries; and happy and fortunate indeed would it have been for the human race had no man, "humanly wise," endeavored to bind man to man and man to God above that Which is Written. This "humanly wise" tendency of man regardless of "what is written," to radiate out into self-formulated theories, into philosophic speculation, superstition, skepticism and corruption crowded out the light from the word of God and brought the Dark Ages. The Dark Age will come into the life of any individual or nation when it shall supercede the Word of God, the "salt of the earth" and "the light of the world" with the theories, philosophies and speculations

of men. The one is of God, the other is "of the earth, earthly."

To eliminate corruption and vice and re-establish the spiritual life of the church was the attempt of the Reformation. Luther's efforts are valuable to the world; not so much for the reforms which he attempted, as in the restoration of the Bible, the true council and standard of religion. The giving of an open Bible into the hands of the people was to the Dark Ages what the rising sun is to the darkness of night.

The value of Calvin's effort lies not in the reforms he attempted, or in the doctrines he so ably discussed, but in the restoring to the Word of God its divine authority which had so long been usurped by the Pope.

The estimate to be placed on the Wesley movement is not in the attempt to reform the Church of England, for that in itself was a failure, but its value lies in what they restored of primitive piety, zeal and devotion. This will live to bless humanity long after the creed that thought to formulate them shall have passed away forever.

Every attempt at reform proved a failure, in whole or in part. While it restored at times somewhat of faith and life, it failed in the reformation attempted, and every effort to formulate into a creed the things in which the reformation failed, but added to the divisions of christendom. Thus while the Reformation was striking blow after blow at corruption and vice it multiplied divisions and strife.

The one peculiar thing about the Christian religion that must not be forgotten is that while it is a great reformer, it can not itself be reformed. Every addition or subtraction but cumbers or weakens and divests of Divine authority. It becomes the duty then of every Christ and His inspired Apostles. All this re-life and faith as they come from the lips of

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Christ and His inspired Apostles. All this remained for some one to see, to hold sacred and to proclaim to all the world.

The divisions and isms and cisms and heresies and jealousies at the beginning of the 19th century, a resultant of the corruption of the church, and the attempted reformation set men to thinking and searching of the scriptures to see if these things existed with divine approval. They soon learned from the scriptures and found from experience that "A House divided against itself can not stand;" that the Master prayed for Union, that the inspired Apostles to the Gentiles rebukes the division in the church and that there is "one Body, one Lord, one Faith, one Spirit, one baptism." These and many other similar truths constantly kept ringing in the ears of Bible readers. Soon they began to teach and proclaim them. To steer clear of all the errors that had crept into the church they said, "we will go back of all creeds and confessions and councils into the Bible, the Divinely authorized standard. Where it speaks we will speak, and where it is silent we are silent."

They thought to go back to the N. T. church, its ordinances, its life and practice in order to bring about Christian union, the one thing needful. Upon the Divine basis and under Divine Authority their prayers and pleading began to be "back to Christ."

Prominent among those who had learned the lesson of the Reformation and saw the need of Christendom were the Campbells, Stone, Scott, and others—men of learning and great piety. Simultaneously this movement sprang up in Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Virginia. Who first inaugurated the movement no one knows. It seems as if the Spirit of God was brooding over the virgin soil of the New World, and the movement was born out of the chaotic conditions of Christendom. With remarkable unanimi-

ty came the cry from every quarter, "Back to Christ," Christian union on the Bible," "The Bible the only hope of Christendom." The one cherished jewel was now placed in the Divine setting which alone could give it vitality and life.

The movement spread like "wild-fire;" every opposition only added fuel to the flames destined to burn up the "hay and stubble"—the divisions and isms of Christendom. Ministers and laymen alike who were in travail by reason of the divided state of things heartily entered into the movement and looked upon it as the one balm to heal the broken body.

So rapid has been this movement that to-day, less than 80 years from its inception, the disciples number nearly one and a half million with no creed but the Bible, united in one great family under the one Lord; wearing no names but those divinely recognized in the Word. What a powerful demonstration of their plea. In nearly every state in the Union and in every country on the globe the seed is being sown and the leaven is working. Shall we not hope and pray for the glorious consummation when the prayer of our Lord shall be answered and the church shall be united to go forth in one solid phalanx to take the world for Christ?

We have dwelt at some length upon the history of this movement, for the reason that its history practically enters into the history of every "Christian church" organization. We shall now endeavor to speak more particularly of this movement in Shelbyville and Shelby county.

SHELBY COUNTY.

In 1832 down the famous Kaskaskia came the venerable elder, John Storms, scattering the seeds of the new movement. He was soon joined by Elder Tobias Grider, and, in 1830, by Elder

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B. W. Henry. From this trio of venerable workers goes forth and dates the beginning of the Christian movement in Shelby and adjoining counties. So inseparately is their labor of sacrifice and devotion connected with nearly every organization in the county that to give an adequate history of the church in the county we must write a biography of each of these faithful followers of the Lord. But space forbids and we must content ourselves with a few brief statements of the work in each place. Suffice it to say that the names of these men are household words, and their devotion and loyalty to the Master ought to be an inspiration to the on-coming generation.

SHELBYVILLE.

In 1830 Bushrod W. Henry moved to the county and began preaching for the Baptists. In 1832 he organized the "First Baptist Church of Christ." He soon found himself in harmony with the new movement. In 1836 the pastor and congregation met and resolved to strike the word "Baptist" from the style of the church, and the body was ever afterward known as the "Church of Christ" in Shelbyville. They proceeded at once to effect the new organization by the selecting and setting apart as elders, B. W. Henry and J. J. Page.

Next to Elder Henry, who remained as the faithful and zealous shepherd of the flock for 12 years, stood Elder Page, who remained elder for 35 years. Truly the work of the church never fell into more willing hands nor devoted heart than during his eldership.

Among the charter members of blessed memory may be mentioned Reuben and Martha Wright, Mrs. Enfield Tackett, Aunt Polly Smith, Mr. Wright, father of the large Wright family, who died within a year after the organiza-

tion, leaving his faithful and devoted wife, Martha, to look after the temporal and spiritual interests of her children.

Few women have been more devoted than she, and in 1875 she died in the triumphs of her living faith. Sister Tackett was the worthy Christian mother of our townsmen and fellow-citizens, Messrs. John A. and William Tackett. She often prepared her own house for the meetings of the little band of disciples. She worthily stood for and supported the work until her death. Aunt "Polly" Smith had learned of the new movement from Elders Rodgers and Stone in Kentucky. She remained a faithful and devoted helper until the end came in January, 1880.

During the early days their meetings were held in the homes, the school house and sometimes in the old court house. In 1843 Elder McVey, from Indiana, held a meeting for them which greatly strengthened them and resulted in the building of a "meeting house" diagonally across from their present building. In this house they met to worship for more than 20 years. Many splendid meetings were held. In 1848 Elder A. D. Northeott, of Kentucky, was employed as County Evangelist. More than 300 persons were added to the church that year. The next year he labored successfully for the church in Shelbyville.

It was at this time that Wm. Brown and Elder Lewis of the M. E. church held their friendly discussion in the Christian church in which General Thornton was chairman. As a result of this discussion many delusions and misconceptions were dispelled and the church greatly strengthened.

In 1865 the present large and commodious brick edifice was built at a cost of \$15,000, which stands as a monument to self-sacrificing zeal and whole-hearted devotedness to the cause of the restoration of pure primitive christianity among

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the people. The lower floor contains lecture room, study and kitchen. The auditorium will easily seat 600 people, although a thousand have often been within its walls. At present an effort is on foot to repair and refurnish the whole building.

The regular ministers who have served as preachers and pastors to the congregation are as follows: Elders Henry, Northcutt, Young, Ethridge, Boston, Gains, Brinkerhoof, Kellar, Harris, Long, Lane, Allen, Brooks, Stewart, Waggoner, Pruitt, Edwards, Bell, Williams, Collins, Horney, Slator, Jewett, Groves, and the present pastor, Wm. H. Drummet.

The present elders, each deserving of special mention, are "Uncle" Mike Freybarger, Judge Kelley, Capt. Turney and Samuel Wright. The deacons are, Roberts, Lumpp, Stewart, Fraker, Trice, Bennett, Klauser, Storm, Carr, Terry, J. D., Elias and James E. Miller.

The present membership of the church is 400; number in Sunday school is 150, with O. P. Wright as superintendent; number in C. E., 50. The church has had many trials and has overcome great difficulties. She is now in a prosperous condition, ready to enter in a still larger measure into the spreading of the Master's message and the extension of His kingdom. May the good Lord guide and direct their every effort.

ASH GROVE,

formerly Cochran's Grove, south of Windsor. This church was organized in 1832 by Elder Storm. Her trials and success were similar to those of pioneer days. This church has enjoyed the preaching of some of the ablest men in the Brotherhood. The present church was built at the cost of \$2,500, and will seat 600 people. Her present membership is over 300. This is a

wealthy and splendidly situated community, and if the liberality and zeal of her members are equal to her ability and opportunity, a much larger work will yet be accomplished in the name and for the honor of our Lord Jesus Christ.

SAND CREEK.

This congregation was organized by Elder Storm in 1834. The entire enrollment of the church since its organization has been about 1,000. Her members have been the nucleus of several other congregations. Her present membership is 100. Elder Grider was her regular minister for 44 years, and Elder P. P. Warren has been associated with him for 34 years. The church has reared out of its own members the following preachers: Isaac Miller, Nathan Rice, P. P. Warren, H. A. Loomis and L. P. P. Phillips. The most familiar among these is Elder Warren, who is still a veteran of the cross among the country churches of Shelby county.

The present brick building was erected in 1874, at a cost of \$1,200 and seats 300 people. This church has remarkably withstood the changes of time, and if she is true to her Master a much larger extension of the kingdom is possible.

WINDSOR.

This church was organized some time prior to 1859. Very few of the charter members now remain. Her present membership is 180, with a flourishing Sunday school of 100, and C. E. society of 25 active and 25 associate members. Their church edifice was erected in 1859 at a cost of \$2,500. It will seat 500 people and was dedicated by Elder John S. Sweeny, of Paris, Ky. The church has recently been repaired and with the new pastor, Elder Herrald, is in a fair way to do a splendid work for the Master.

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ANTIOCH.

This congregation was organized in 1860, by Elder Henry, with 32 members. C. L. Scott, John and J. T. Barrickman were selected as elders. Nathaniel and I. S. Killam are the present elders. Their present membership is about 150, and they have a flourishing Union Sunday school. Their present house of worship was erected in 1868 at a cost of \$2,400. This community is blessed with a rich and fertile soil and the church has a splendid opportunity to enrich and enlarge the kingdom of the Master.

BETHANY.

In 1860 Elders Grider and Warren held a meeting in a school house where the Bethany church now stands, in Windsor township. Many hearing and believing, were baptized, but took membership with the Sand Creek church until 1871, when P. P. Warren organized the present congregation with 53 members. Elder Warren has preached once a month for the church most of the time since its organization. The house of worship was built in 1871, at a cost of \$1,200, and seats 300 people. The church has reared many young men and women to useful service in the Master's kingdom.

WELBORN CREEK.

This congregation was organized in 1860, by Elder John Sconce, in a log school house near the northeast corner of Todd's Point township, with 58 members. In 1871 they erected their present house of worship at a cost of \$1,200. The membership has been very much scattered and discouraged at times, but they have rallied again and again, and now have a membership of over 100, and are in a fair way to do a good work.

NEW LIBERTY.

Sixty years ago a little log house with two chimneys and no floor was erected as a place of worship in the northeast corner of Windsor township. In 1871 a congregation was organized and in 1874 erected a new house of worship, at a cost of \$1,180. The church was then called New Liberty. Most of the veteran ministers of the county have, at different times, preached for the church. The present membership is over 100.

UNION, OR "DUG-OUT."

This congregation was organized in the Hilden school house on the line of Okaw and Shelby townships, by Elder Grider, in 1873, with 14 members. Their present membership is about 60. Elder Warren and Elder Gray have each been preaching for the church once a month. They have a flourishing Union Sunday school and are in a fair way to do a splendid work in this community.

ROCKY BRANCH.

In Rose township some 50 years ago Elders Henry, Chew and Evey held meetings; sometimes in the homes, then in the groves and at times in Black Log school house. The present organization grew out of a meeting held by Elder Henry in which there were over 50 conversions. The congregation now has a neat little house of worship, and Elder Henry, son of the late "Father" Henry, is its present minister.

ZION.

This congregation was organized by Elders Gilbert and Waggoner, in 1878, with 32 charter members, in the west side of Todd's Point township. In October of the same year their new house of worship, costing \$1,200 was dedicated

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by Elder J. G. Waggoner. May the Lord direct their future efforts.

OAK GROVE.

This congregation was organized in 1880, by Elder Linn, with 36 members. The church building is a Union house of worship. At present the Christian people are the only ones holding services. Meetings have been held by Elders Jewett, Groves and the writer, that have added materially to the working force. Their present membership is about 50 persons. May the good Lord guide them in wisdom's ways and use them for the spiritual enlargement of the community.

MODE.

This congregation was organized by Elder Linn, who labored under the Co-operative association of the county. In 1880 he held a meeting with 50 additions resulting. A Union house of worship has been erected at a cost of \$1,800, and they have a good Sunday school. Have recently held a good meeting and are in good shape for a splendid work in this community.

PRAIRIE BIRD.

This congregation was organized by Elder B. W. Henry, in 1850, with 23 members. In 1857 they built a neat little house of worship at a cost of \$1,500. The next year "Father" Henry's son, J. O. Henry, was ordained to the ministry and has done much to maintain and strengthen the efficient efforts of his father. Their present membership is about 100. Part of their membership has recently moved to Tower Hill, thus forming the nucleus for a congregation there.

TOWER HILL.

This congregation was organized by Elder

W. H. Bales, in October, 1896, with 55 members. In January of the next year he held another meeting, with 73 additions. He was followed by Elders Doughty, Hostettler, Williams and Henry. The writer recently held a meeting for them, resulting in 45 additions. They have a splendid church edifice erected at a cost of \$2,000. They have a splendid Sunday school of 70, and C. E. society of 30 members. The present elders are J. T. and W. E. Killam and Charles Smith. They are in good condition and the field is ripe for a larger work.

MOWEAQUA.

There is a strong organization here. Elder A. R. Spicer, while yet in college, gathered together a few disciples and preached for them every two weeks. Four years ago Elder J. P. Lichtenberger, then of Canton, held a meeting with 137 additions. Since then Elders Spicer and Golden have served the congregation. They have erected a splendid brick tabernacle. Their present membership is 268, with 60 in the Sunday school, with a Senior C. E. society of 33, and a Junior society of 30 members. They are in a good way to do a splendid work for the Master.

COWDEN.

This congregation was organized some three or four years ago. They have recently dedicated a splendid new church edifice. In January, of this year (1901), Elder Brown, under the co-operation of the District Board, held a meeting for them, resulting in 36 additions, making their total membership 110. Hattie Montgomery is the church correspondent, and Elder Brown, son of Evangelist Leland T. Brown, is their present preacher. We look for a larger and more aggressive work for the Master.

STEWARDSON.

This congregation was organized some 15 or 18 years ago. They have a splendid brick

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house of worship. Their present membership is 42, with a flourishing Sunday school of 113. Elmer Shumard, is the corresponding member, and Elder Zerr is the present minister.

FANCHER.

This congregation was organized a few years ago. Their present membership is 70, with 48 in the Sunday school. This ought to be but the beginning of a much larger work for the Master.

HOLLIDAY.

There is but a small congregation here, numbering at present but 25, with 25 in the Sunday school. The work here is new and we shall soon look for larger results for the Master. O. C. Riley is the corresponding member.

HERRICK.

This congregation, together with several others in the southern part of the county, has been but recently organized and is not very strong. Herrick has a church building and a present membership of 64, and 65 in the Bible school. Thomas Brewer is the corresponding member. The southern portion of the county is not blessed with a rich soil, but God can even make this to abound in the riches of His grace.

It will thus be seen that there are scattered over the county nearly 2,000 disciples, with 21 church organizations, and 19 houses of worship, erected at a cost of \$50,000, all of which stand as monuments to the loyalty, sacrifice, and devotion of those who stand for the restoration of

primitive christianity and the union of all of God's people.

* * * *

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

The organization of a society of the African M. E. church, of which there is but one in the county, and that one in Shelbyville, was effected by A. S. Williams in the summer of 1875. The families then residing here whose affiliations would naturally be with that church, were those of Mr. Williams himself, Henry Lee, P. Jones, R. Hunt, M. Lewis, Mrs. Casse, Tom Posten, Wesley McCann and B. Huston.

When the needs and circumstances seemed to warrant it, Mr. Williams sent for the Rev. Mr. Hand, pastor of the Mattoon A. M. E. church, who, upon his arrival, called together the following named people: Mrs. Cassey, Mrs. Haines, Mrs. Johnson, J. Hardy and R. Robertson. The first meeting was held in the old court house, and these meetings were continued in various places until 1885. In this year the members of this society set to work to build a church edifice of their own, in which they could feel that they were indeed at home. Many of the white citizens of Shelbyville co-operated with them, and kindly told them not to go outside of the city to secure money, as all that would be necessary would be forthcoming here. After building the church they were also enabled to build a parsonage for the pastor.

This little band of valiant christian workers has been zealously doing its part toward the evangelization of the city, and the support of the cause of Christ. The present membership is 18, with a good Sabbath school of 24 members. A. S. Williams is the efficient Sunday school superintendent, while Rev. C. H. Jackson is the popular pastor.

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METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

(By Dr. H. H. Oneal.)

The Methodist Episcopal church was the pioneer church in Shelby county. Indeed, before the county was organized the Methodist itinerant was on the ground, hunting the far scattered inhabitants, gathering them together as best he could, and preaching to them the Word of Life.

In 1825, when Indiana, Illinois and Iowa were all one conference, the Rev. Joseph Foulks of the Shoal Creek circuit, came to Cold Spring and preached at the house of Mrs. Sallie Turner, on Robinson Creek. Joseph Foulks was followed by Thomas Randle, Samuel H. Thompson, Wm. L. Deneau, Lorenzo Edwards and Milo Huffaker. The preachers went everywhere, without waiting to be invited. Their work was arduous, often without any compensation, but it was faithfully discharged.

The cause grew rapidly. Little societies were formed, Sunday schools organized, and preaching maintained, wherever a few people could be brought together.

In 1830 a house of worship was begun on what is now North Morgan street, Shelbyville; this was probably the first church building erected in the county. Societies were formed at Shelby Chapel, St. Mary's, Sanner's, Mt. Carmel, Pleasant Grove, Sulphur Springs, Moweaqua and Stewardson, at an early day.

In 1857 we find Shelbyville circuit, with Hiram Buck, presiding elder, J. S. Barger and W. M. McVey preachers, and 312 members; also Moweaqua, with Wm. S. Prentiss, presiding elder, J. W. Sinnock, preacher in charge, and 200 members.

In 1858 Shelbyville was separated from Shelbyville circuit, and organized as a station, with Rev. D. Bardrick as preacher in charge,

and 73 members. That year Windsor circuit was formed, with J. B. Reynolds as pastor, J. W. Aneals was sent to Shelbyville circuit, and J. W. Sinnock continued at Moweaqua.

In 1859 G. R. L. McElfresh, still living and an honored member of Illinois conference, became preacher in charge. This year one person was expelled from the church for dancing, and another for Sabbath breaking.

In 1860 Alexander Semple became pastor of the Shelbyville church, with a membership of 89. During the year C. C. Scovil offered \$500 to be used in building a new church to cost \$3,000.

In 1861 R. W. Travis, presiding elder, and R. Holding, was preacher in charge. The membership of the church had grown to 125 and 56 probationers. Mr. Holding was re-appointed in 1862, but resigned during the year to become a chaplain in the army. The unexpired year was supplied by A. C. Vandewater.

In 1863 S. S. McGinnis was appointed to Shelbyville, and re-appointed in 1864.

In 1865 Allen Buckner became presiding elder, and W. N. McElroy, now presiding elder of Jacksonville district, became pastor of Shelbyville church, and remained two years. These were years of prosperity for the church. A two-story brick church was built on Main street, and the membership was increased to 190.

From 1867 to 1876 the following pastors were in charge of Shelbyville church, viz.: John B. Ford, two years; Wm. Reed, one year; R. N. Davies, three years; Alexander Semple returned for a second term and remained two years. In 1875 Wm. Stevenson became pastor and remained three years. The following table, beginning with the second year of Mr. Stevenson's pastorate, and ending with the present date, gives a bird's eye view of the growth of the church in the county for the last twenty-five years:

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1876—Shelbyville—First church, R. N. Davies, presiding elder; Wm. Stevenson, pastor; number of members, 314; number of churches, 1; value of church property, (including parsonages), \$18,000; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of scholars in Sunday schools, 324.

Circuit—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; A. Pottle, pastor; members, 161; churches, 3; property, \$8,000; schools, 3; scholars, 236.

South Shelbyville—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; D. C. Burkitt, pastor; members, 294; churches, 4; property, \$5,850; schools, 4; scholars, 222.

Tower Hill—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; D. H. Stubblefield, pastor; members, 253; churches, 6; property, \$7,600; schools, 5; scholars, 430.

Windsor—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; W. C. Lacey, pastor; members, 200; churches, 3; property, \$4,200; schools, 1; scholars, 170.

Moweaqua—Hiram Buck, pres. eld.; Wm. Murphy, pastor; members, 125; churches,—; property, \$8,000; schools, 1; scholars, 120.

Oconee—Hiram Buck, pres. eld.; E. Gallagher, pastor.

1877—Shelbyville—First church, R. N. Davies, presiding elder; Wm. Stevenson, pastor; number of members, 315; number of churches, 1; value of church property, (including parsonages), \$15,000; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 252.

Circuit—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; W. F. Shoemaker, pastor; members, 139; churches, 3; property, \$8,000; schools, 4; scholars, 265.

South Shelbyville—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; D. C. Burkitt, pastor; members, 233; churches, 5; property, \$6,000; schools, 4; scholars, 242.

Tower Hill—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; E. S. Wamsley, pastor; members, 263; churches, 6; property, \$8,500; schools, 4; scholars, 303.

Windsor—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; J. W. Crane, pastor; members 325; churches, 4; property, \$6,800.

Moweaqua—Hiram Buck, pres. eld.; Wm. Murphy, pastor; members, 137; churches, 1; property, \$8,300; schools, 2; scholars, 251.

Oconee—Hiram Buck, pres. eld.; E. Gallagher, pastor; members, 235; churches, 3; property, \$4,000; schools, 5; scholars, 368.

Cowden circuit—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; W. H. Ganaway, pastor.

1878—Shelbyville—R. N. Davies, presiding elder; J. L. Crane, pastor; number of members, 305; number of churches, 1; value of church property, (including parsonages), \$14,000; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 302.

Circuit—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; A. Y. Graham, pastor; members, 160; churches, 3; property, \$3,000; schools, 4; scholars, 293.

Moulton—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; C. Galeener, pastor.

South Shelbyville—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; W. F. Shoemaker, pastor; members, 225; churches, 3; property, \$6,000; schools, 4; scholars, 273.

Tower Hill—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; M. B. McFadden, pastor; members, 184; churches, 4; property, \$3,000; schools, 4; scholars, 230.

Cowden—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; W. H. Ganaway, pastor; members, 152; churches, 2; property, \$2,800; schools, 1; scholars, 110.

Windsor—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; J. W. Crane, pastor; members, 275; churches, 4; property, \$4,000; schools, 3; scholars, 242.

Moweaqua—Hiram Buck, pres. eld.; D. E. May, pastor; members, 160; churches, 1; property, \$8,300; schools, 3; scholars, 198.

Oconee—Hiram Buck, pres. eld.; P. F. Gay, pastor; members, 260; churches, 3; property, \$4,000; schools, 5; scholars, 320.

1879—Shelbyville—David Gay, presiding elder; G. W. English, pastor; number of members, 300; number of churches, 1; value of

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church property, (including parsonages), \$8,000; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 234.

Moulton—David Gay, pres. eld.; C. Galeener, pastor; members, 82; churches, 1; property, \$3,000; schools, 1; scholars, 157.

Cowden—David Gay, pres. eld.; A. H. Rusk, pastor; members, 171; churches, 2; property, \$3,150; schools, 2; scholars, 118.

Tower Hill—David Gay, pres. eld.; M. B. McFadden, pastor; members, 210; churches, 4; property, \$4,450; schools, 3; scholars, 130.

Stewardson—David Gay, pres. eld.; W. F. Shoemaker, pastor.

Windsor—David Gay, pres. eld.; J. L. B. Ellis, pastor; members, 300; churches, 4; property, \$5,000; schools, 1; scholars, 169.

Moweaqua—Hiram Buck pres. eld.; J. B. Colwell, pastor; members, 165; churches, 1; property, \$8,300; schools, 3; scholars, 204.

Oconee—Hiram Buck, pres. eld.; P. F. Gay, pastor; members, 216; churches, 2; property, \$2,600; schools, 3; scholars, 351.

1880—Shelbyville—David Gay presiding elder; D. W. English, pastor; number of members, 300; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$8,000; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 323.

Circuit—David Gay, pres. eld.; supplied, pastor.

Moulton—David Gay, pres. eld.; W. R. Howard, pastor; members, 109; churches, 1; property, \$3,000; schools, 1; scholars, 197.

Stewardson—David Gay, pres. eld.; E. Gallagher, pastor; members, 352; churches, 5; property, \$7,000; schools, 7; scholars, 465.

Tower Hill—David Gay, pres. eld.; A. B. McElfresh, pastor; members, 214; churches, 4; property, \$4,800; schools, 4; scholars, 244.

Cowden—David Gay, pres. eld.; S. H.

Huber, pastor; members, 160; churches, 2; property, \$3,150; schools, 2; scholars, 143.

Windsor—David Gay, pres. eld.; M. B. McFadden, pastor; members, 287; churches, 4; property, \$5,000; schools, 1; scholars, 323.

Moweaqua—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; J. B. Colwell, pastor; members, 175; churches, 1; property, \$8,300; schools, 3; scholars, 278.

Oconee—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; P. F. Gay, pastor; members, 215; churches, 1; property, \$2,900; schools, 5; scholars, 302.

1881—Shelbyville—First church, David Gay, presiding elder; J. B. Wolfe, pastor; number of members, 264; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$8,000; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 325.

Moulton—David Gay, pres. eld.; C. Galeener, pastor; members, 224; churches, 3; property, \$5,000; schools, 3; scholars, 268.

Circuit—David Gay, pres. eld.; D. F. Howe, pastor; members, 154; churches, 2; property, \$2,000; schools, 2; scholars, 112.

Stewardson—David Gay, pres. eld.; J. O. Collins, pastor; members, 212; churches, 3; property, \$4,500; schools, 4; scholars, 242.

Tower Hill—David Gay, pres. eld.; A. B. McElfresh, pastor; members, 256; churches, 4; property, \$4,800; schools, 3; scholars, 230.

Cowden—David Gay, pres. eld.; M. F. Ault, pastor; members, 146; churches, 2; property, \$3,200; schools, 3; scholars, 209.

Windsor—David Gay, pres. eld.; M. B. McFadden, pastor; members, 256; churches, 3; property, \$3,300; schools, 3; scholars, 235.

Moweaqua—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; A. Semple, pastor; members, 160; churches, 1; property, \$8,500; schools, 3; scholars, 243.

Oconee—R. N. Davies, pres. eld.; John Slater, pastor, members, 182; churches, 2; property, \$2,900; schools, 4; scholars, 335.

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1882—Shelbyville—First church, David Gay, presiding elder; J. B. Wolfe, pastor; number of members, 262; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$8,000; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 325.

Moulton—David Gay, pres. eld.; A. H. Gunnell, pastor; members, 108; churches, 1; property, \$3,000; schools, —; scholars, 161.

Circuit—David Gay, pres. eld.; D. F. Howe, pastor; members, 208; churches, 4; property, \$5,000; schools, 2; scholars, 112.

Stewardson—David Gay, pres. eld.; J. Glick, pastor; members, 176; churches, 4; property, \$4,650; schools, 4; scholars, 230.

Tower Hill—David Gay, pres. eld.; H. T. Collins, pastor; members, 264; churches, 4; property, \$4,600; schools, 3; scholars, 175.

Cowden—David Gay, pres. eld.; C. F. Tobey, pastor; members, 136; churches, 4; property, \$3,300; schools, 3; scholars, 225.

Windsor—David Gay, pres. eld.; M. B. McFadden, pastor; members, 190; churches, 2; property, \$5,700; schools, 2; scholars, 221.

Moweaqua—David Gay, pres. eld.; A. Semple, pastor; members, 148; churches, 1; property, \$8,000; schools, 1; scholars, 106.

Oconee—David Gay, pres. eld.; Jno. Slater, pastor; members, 186; churches, 2; property, \$2,800; schools, 4; scholars, 340.

1883—Shelbyville—David Gay, presiding elder; J. B. Wolfe, pastor. (Statistics of other charges in the county for this year not available.)

1884—Shelbyville—First church, Horace Reed, presiding elder; J. H. Noble, pastor; number of members, 310; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$13,000; number of Sunday schools, 2; number of Sunday school scholars, 315.

Moulton—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; A. H.

Gunnell, pastor; members, 170; churches, 1; property, \$3,900; schools, 1; scholars, 204.

Circuit—Horace Reed, pres. eld.

Stewardson—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; J. Glick, pastor; members, 210; churches, 4; property, \$4,600; schools, 5; scholars, 327.

Tower Hill—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; H. T. Collins, pastor; members, 265; churches, 4; property, \$3,600; schools, 3; scholars, 170.

Cowden—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; James Jeffers, pastor; members, 145; churches, 3; property, \$3,500; schools, 3; scholars, 225.

Windsor—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; M. L. K. Morgan, pastor; members, 131; churches, 1; property, \$4,100; schools, 1; scholars, 175.

Moweaqua—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; J. W. Crane, pastor; members, 94; churches, 1; property, \$8,500; schools, 1; scholars, 107.

Oconee—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; J. C. Lockhart, pastor; members, 138; churches, 2; property, \$3,600; schools, 5; scholars, 268.

1885—(Statistics for this year not available.)

1886—Shelbyville—First church, Horace Reed, presiding elder; J. H. Noble, pastor; number of members, 242; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$14,000; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 168.

Moulton—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; C. E. Taylor, pastor; members, 180; churches, 1; property, \$4,000; schools, 1; scholars, 197.

Circuit—Horace Reed, pres. eld.

Stewardson—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; S. W. Balek, pastor; members, 265; churches, 5; property, \$7,500; schools, 5; scholars, 330.

Tower Hill—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; T. O. Baty, pastor; members, 441; churches, 5; property, \$5,000; schools, 5; scholars, 420.

Cowden—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; Howard Miller, pastor; members, 180; churches, 2; property, \$2,000; schools, 3; scholars, 200.

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Windsor—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; P. A. Swart, pastor; members, 185; churches, 5; property, \$6,500; schools, 5; scholars, 192.

Moweaqua—W. H. Wilder, pres. eld.; L. James, pastor; members, 150; churches, 1; property, \$7,300; schools, 1; scholars, 112.

Oconee—W. H. Wilder, pres. eld.; Arthur Willard, pastor; members, 151; churches, 2; property, \$2,600; schools, 3; scholars, 207.

1887—Shelbyville—First church, J. T. Orr, presiding elder; W. S. Hooper, pastor; number of members, 233; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$11,500; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 175.

Moulton—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; J. M. West, pastor; members, 148; churches, 1; property, \$3,800; schools, 1; scholars, 201.

Circuit—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.

Cowden—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; T. H. Fierce, pastor; members, 99; churches, 2; property, \$2,000; schools, 2; scholars, 122.

Stewardson—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; S. W. Balek, pastor; members, 330; churches, 5; property, \$7,500; schools, 6; scholars, 400.

Tower Hill—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; P. Slagle, pastor; members, 375; churches, 5; property, \$5,800; schools, 4; scholars, 411.

Windsor—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; R. Y. Williams, pastor; members, 205; churches, 4; property, \$6,100; schools, 4; scholars, 273.

Moweaqua—W. H. Wilder, pres. eld.; A. C. Armentrout; members, 200; churches, 2; property, \$11,700; schools, 2; scholars, 245.

Oconee—W. H. Wilder, pres. eld.; J. A. Hardenbrook, pastor; members, 170; churches, 2; property, \$2,500; schools, 3; scholars, 182.

1888—(Statistics for this year not available.)

1889—Shelbyville—First church, J. T. Orr, presiding elder; W. S. Hooper, pastor; number of members, 224; number of churches, 1; value

of church property, \$11,500; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 178.

Moulton—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; T. L. Hancock, pastor; members, 156; churches, 1; property, \$3,800; schools, 1; scholars, 211.

Circuit—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; E. M. Sutton, pastor; members, 206; churches, 5; property, \$5,200; schools, 4; scholars, 307.

Cowden—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; R. T. Milnes, pastor; members, 115; churches, 2; property, \$2,100; schools, 3; scholars, 222.

Stewardson—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; A. M. Campbell, pastor; members, 247; churches, 4; property, \$4,100; schools, 4; scholars, 295.

Tower Hill—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; P. Slagle, pastor; members, 206; churches, 3; property, \$3,100; schools, 3; scholars, 260.

Windsor—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; J. B. Martin, pastor; members, 280; churches, 4; property, \$5,600; schools, 4; scholars, 215.

Moweaqua—M. D. Hawes, pres. eld.; A. C. Armentrout, pastor; members, 239; churches, 2; property, \$10,300; schools, 2; scholars, 289.

Oconee—M. D. Hawes, pres. eld.; W. W. Swearinger, pastor; members, 163; churches, 2; property, \$1,900; schools, 4; scholars, 258.

1890—Shelbyville—First church, J. T. Orr, presiding elder; A. T. Orr, pastor; number of members, 236; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$12,500; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 177.

Moulton—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; T. L. Hancock, pastor; members, 164; churches, 1; property, \$3,800; schools, 1; scholars, 250.

Circuit—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; J. W. Miller, pastor; members, 230; churches, 5; property, \$5,700; schools, 5; scholars, 362.

Cowden—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; T. H. Tull,

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pastor; members, 114; churches, 2; property, \$2,500; schools, 2; scholars, 159.

Stewardson—J. W. Orr, pres. eld.; E. M. Sutton, pastor; members, 254; churches, 3; property, \$4,100; schools, 3; scholars, 226.

Tower Hill—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; A. M. Campbell, pastor; members, 181; churches, 3; property, \$3,100; schools, 3; scholars, 180.

Windsor—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; Jo. Waterbury, pastor; members, 340; churches, 5; property, \$6,100; schools, 5; scholars, 332.

Moweaqua—M. D. Hawes, pres. eld.; A. C. Armentrout, pastor; members, 273, churches, 2; property, \$10,300; schools, 2; scholars, 289.

Oconee—M. D. Hawes pres. eld.; J. C. Chapman, pastor; members, 210; churches, 1; property, \$1,900; schools, 3; scholars, 265.

1891—Shelbyville—First church, J. T. Orr, presiding elder; W. F. Gillmore, pastor. (Statistics of church in the county for this year, not available.)

1892—Shelbyville—First church, J. T. Orr, presiding elder; W. F. Gillmore, pastor; number of members 227; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$12,500; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 180.

Moulton—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; E. K. Crews, pastor; members, 208; churches, 1; property, \$4,000; schools, 1; scholars, 159.

Circuit—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; J. A. Stout, pastor; members, 193; churches, 5; property, \$5,600; schools, 1; scholars, 170.

Cowden—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; ——, pastor; members, 126; churches, 1; property, \$1,500; schools, 1; scholars, 160.

Stewardson—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; M. E. Hobart, pastor; members, 276; churches, 4; property, \$4,000; schools, 2; scholars, 181.

Tower Hill—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; J. B. Martin, pastor; members, 230; churches, 4; property,

\$3,600; schools, 4; scholars, 305.

Windsor—J. T. Orr, pres. eld.; J. A. Burchett, pastor; members, 100; churches, 1; property, \$3,650; schools, 1; scholars, 79.

Moweaqua—James Miller, pres. eld.; T. D. Weems, pastor; members, 240; churches, 1; property, \$6,900; schools, 1; scholars, 167.

Oconee—James Miller, pres. eld.; J. H. Hartrick, pastor; members, 190; churches, 4; property, \$5,200; schools, 4; scholars, 286.

1893—Shelbyville—First church, Robert Stephens, presiding elder; W. F. Gillmore, pastor; number of members, 222; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$12,500; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 125.

Moulton—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; E. K. Crews, pastor; members, 180; churches, 1; property, \$4,000; schools, 1; scholars, 182.

Circuit—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; J. G. Jeffers, pastor; members, 189; churches, 5; property, \$5,500; schools, 4; scholars, 142.

Cowden—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; J. M. Carns, pastor; members, 110; churches, 2; property, \$1,950; schools, 2; scholars, 148.

Stewardson—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; M. E. Hobart, pastor; members, 216; churches, 4; property, \$4,450; schools, 3; scholars, 247.

Tower Hill—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; J. B. Martin, pastor; members, 276; churches, 3; property, \$6,000; schools, 2; scholars, 248.

Windsor—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; J. A. Burchett, pastor; members, 127; churches, 1; property, \$3,650; schools, 1; scholars, 116.

Moweaqua—C. Galeener, pres. eld.; H. C. Turner, pastor; members, 270; churches, 1; property, \$6,000; schools, 1; scholars, 193.

Oconee—C. Galeener, pres. eld.; J. W. Waltz, pastor; members, 200; churches, 4; property, \$5,400; schools, 4; scholars, 286.

1894—Shelbyville—First church, Robert

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Stephens, presiding elder; W. F. Gillmore, pastor; number of members, 310; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$12,500; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 170.

Moulton—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; E. K. Crews, pastor; members, 221; churches, 1; property, \$4,000; schools, 1; scholars, 195.

Circuit—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; C. Munson, pastor; members, 211; churches, 5; property, \$5,500; schools, 5; scholars, 256.

Cowden—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; E. S. Borton, pastor; members, 131; churches, 3; property, \$3,500; schools, 2; scholars, 169.

Stewardson—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; S. N. Wakefield, pastor; members, 201; churches, 4; property, \$4,050; schools, 2; scholars, 250.

Tower Hill—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; J. B. Martin, pastor; members, 301; churches, 3; property, \$8,100; schools, 2; scholars, 257.

Windsor—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; T. L. Hancock, pastor; members, 140; churches, 1; property, \$3,650; schools, 1; scholars, 116.

Findlay—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; T. F. Pierson, pastor.

Moweaqua—C. Galeener, pres. eld.; E. J. Durham, pastor; members, 265; churches, 1; property, \$6,000; schools, 1; scholars, 203.

Oconee—C. Galeener, pres. eld.; J. W. Waltz, pastor; members, 250; churches, 4; property, \$5,400; schools, 4; scholars, 327.

1895—Shelbyville—First church, Robert Stephens, presiding elder; W. F. Gillmore, pastor; number of members, 295; churches, 1; value of church property, \$12,500; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 145.

Moulton—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; D. W. Britton, pastor; members, 227; churches, 1; property, \$4,000; schools, 1; scholars, 170.

Circuit—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; —,

pastor; members, 83; churches, 2; property, \$1,600; schools, 2; scholars, 140.

Cowden—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; E. S. Borton, pastor; members, 140; churches, 3; property, \$3,550; schools, 3; scholars, 228.

Findlay—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; S. N. Madden, pastor; members, 106; churches, 3; property, \$5,000; schools, 2; scholars, 96..

Stewardson—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; S. N. Wakefield, pastor; members, 239; churches, 4; property, \$5,200; schools, 4; scholars, 249.

Tower Hill—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; J. L. B. Ellis, pastor; members, 280; churches, 3; property, \$8,300; schools, 2; scholars, 307.

Windsor—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; J. L. Hancock, pastor; members, 158; churches, 1; property, \$3,700; schools, 1; scholars, 127.

Moweaqua—C. Galeener, pres. eld.; E. J. Durham, pastor; members, 254; churches, 1; property, \$6,000; schools, 1; scholars, 198.

Oconee—C. Galeener, pres. eld.; W. A. Dawson, pastor; members, 292; churches, 4; property, \$5,400; schools, 4; scholars, 380.

1896—Shelbyville—Robert Stephens, presiding elder; A. L. T. Ewert, pastor; number of members, 346; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$12,500; number of Sunday Schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 125.

Moulton—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; R. T. Milnes, pastor; members, 228; churches, 1; property, \$4,200; schools, 1; scholars, 170.

Circuit—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; —, pastor; members, 112; churches, 2; property, \$1,600; schools, 2; scholars, 140.

Cowden—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; J. M. Tull, pastor; members, 145; churches, 3; property, \$3,550; schools, 3; scholars, 281.

Findlay—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; J. S.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Bicknell, pastor; members, 162; churches, 3; property, \$5,000; schools, 3; scholars, 118.

Stewardson—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; S. N. Wakefield, pastor; members, 220; churches, 4; property, \$3,900; schools, 4; scholars, 312.

Tower Hill—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; J. Miller, pastor; members, 252; churches, 3; property, \$8,300; schools, 2; scholars, 234.

Windsor—Robert Stephens, pres. eld.; T. L. Hancock, pastor; members, 161; churches, 1; property, \$3,700; schools, 1; scholars, 127.

Moweaqua—E. B. Randle, pres. eld.; E. J. Durham, pastor; members, 219; churches, 1; property, \$7,900; schools, 1; scholars, 169.

Oconeé—E. B. Randle, pres. eld.; W. A. Dawson, pastor; members, 290; churches, 3; property, \$4,500; schools, 3; scholars, 340.

1807—Shelbyville—First church, S. H. Whitlock, presiding elder; A. L. T. Ewert, pastor; number of members, 350; churches, 1; value of church property, \$12,500; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 140.

Houlton—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J. E. Scheer, pastor; members, 151; churches, 1; property, \$4,200; schools, 1; scholars, 169.

Circuit—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; W. R. Howard, pastor; members, 175; churches, 3; property, \$1,000; schools, 3; scholars, 117.

Cowden—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; F. W. Moore, pastor; members, 120; churches, 3; property, \$4,000; schools, 4; scholars, 281.

Findlay—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J. S. Bicknell, pastor; members, 190; churches, 3; property, \$5,000; schools, 3; scholars, 138.

Stewardson—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J. M. Tull, pastor; members, 235; churches, 4; property, \$4,700; schools, 4; scholars, 311.

Tower Hill—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J.

Miller, pastor; members, 245; churches, 3; property, \$6,000; schools, 2; scholars, 200.

Windsor—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; A. A. White, pastor; members, 171; churches, 1; property, \$3,500; schools, 1; scholars, 128.

Moweaqua—E. B. Randle, pres. eld.; E. J. Durham, pastor; members, 243; churches, 1; property, \$7,900; schools, 1; scholars, 212.

Oconeé—E. B. Randle, pres. eld.; M. V. B. Hill, pastor; members, 260; churches, 3; property, \$4,500; schools, 3; scholars, 340.

1808—Shelbyville—First church, S. H. Whitlock, presiding elder; A. L. T. Ewert, pastor; number of members, 365; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$28,000; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars 140.

Moulton—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; S. N. Wakefield, pastor; members, 170; churches, 1; property, \$4,200; schools, 1; scholars 203.

Circuit—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J. A. Ronsey, pastor; members, 70; churches, 2; property \$2,000; schools, 1; scholars, 49.

Cowden—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; A. M. Wells, pastor; members, 130; churches, 3; property, \$3,500; schools, 3; scholars 170.

Findlay—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J. M. Carns, pastor; members, 179; churches, 3; property \$3,000; schools, 4; scholars, 235.

Stewardson—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J. M. Tull, pastor; members, 205; churches, 4; property, \$4,750; schools, 3; scholars, 310.

Tower Hill—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; Jasper Miller, pastor; members, 275; churches, 2; property, \$7,000; schools, 2; scholars, 224.

Windsor—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; A. A. White, pastor; members, 175; churches, 1; property, \$3,500; schools, 1; scholars, 120.

Moweaqua—E. B. Randle, pres. eld.; Jos.

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Foxworthy, pastor; members, 225; churches, 1; property, \$7,900; schools, 1; scholars, 233.

Oconee—E. B. Randle, pres. eld.; M. V. B. Hill, pastor; members, 196; churches, 3; property, \$4,500; schools, 3; scholars, 226.

1899—Shelbyville—First church, S. H. Whitlock, presiding elder; H. H. Oneal, pastor; number of members, 378; number of churches, 1; value of church property, \$28,000; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 145.

Moulton—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; E. K. Crews, pastor; members, 150; churches, 1; property, \$3,800; schools, 1; scholars, 127.

Cowden—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; A. M. Wells, pastor; members, 130; churches, 4; property, \$4,800; schools, 3; scholars, 225.

Findlay—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J. L. Dickson, pastor; members, 168; churches, 3; property, \$5,000; schools, 4; scholars, 226.

Stewardson—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J. M. Eldredge, pastor; members, 275; churches, 5; property, \$5,750; schools, 4; scholars, 387.

Tower Hill—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; G. W. Olmstead, pastor; members, 260; churches, 2; property, \$5,800; schools, 2; scholars, 210.

Windsor—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; A. A. White, pastor; members, 172; churches, 1; property, \$3,700; schools, 1; scholars, 110.

Moweaqua—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; Jos. Foxworthy, pastor; members, 221; churches, 1; property, \$7,500; schools, 1; scholars, 226.

Oconee—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; M. V. B. Hill, pastor; members, 233; churches, 3; property, \$4,500; schools, 3; scholars, 246.

1900—Shelbyville—First church, S. H. Whitlock, presiding elder; H. H. Oneal, pastor; number of members, 370; number of churches,

1; value of church property, \$29,000; number of Sunday schools, 1; number of Sunday school scholars, 181.

Moulton—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J. L. B. Ellis, pastor; members, 150; churches, 1; property, \$3,600; schools, 1; scholars, 140.

Cowden—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; —— pastor; members, 183; churches, 3; property, \$4,000; schools, 3; scholars, 247.

Findlay—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J. L. Dickson, pastor; members, 165; churches, 3; property, \$5,000; schools, 5; scholars, 280.

Stewardson—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; J. M. Eldredge, pastor; members, 273; churches, 5; property, \$5,500; schools, 4; scholars, 225.

Clarksburg—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; C. W. Monson, pastor; members, 90; churches, 2; property, \$1,500; schools, 2; scholars, 89.

Tower Hill—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; G. W. Olmstead, pastor; members, 260; churches, 2; property, \$5,500; schools, 2; scholars, 270.

Windsor—S. H. Whitlock, pres. eld.; E. K. Crews, pastor; members, 176; churches, 1; property, \$3,500; schools, 2; scholars, 165.

Moweaqua—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; J. Foxworthy, pastor; members, 310; churches, 1; property, \$7,500; schools, 1; scholars, 251.

Oconee—Horace Reed, pres. eld.; D. D. Kensil, pastor; members, 243; churches, 3; property, \$4,300; schools, 3; scholars, 237.

At the present time, there are, within the county, ten pastors, 2,220 members, 22 church buildings, property (including parsonages) valued at \$69,400, twenty-four Sunday schools with 2,085 Sunday school scholars. The church is growing from year to year, and will no doubt continue to be in the time to come, as it has in the past, a great benefit to the people.

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FREE METHODIST.

(By Rev. A. J. Smith.)

In doctrine the Free Methodist church adheres closely to the standard bearers of the M. E. church. The difference is chiefly in church government.

Since it is written "Let every one that weareth the name of Christ depart from iniquity," they make as a test of membership, the giving up of secret societies, the laying aside of superfluous adornings and the abstaining from the use of opiates, such as tobacco and opium. As a church they stand pledged to support the political party that promises the prohibition of the liquor traffic. Their constant aim being principle before policy.

COWDEN.

The first Free Methodist church in Shelby county was organized in 1881, by the Rev. W. B. M. Colt, in Cowden, after a very successful revival meeting in which the doctrine of entire sanctification was made prominent.

As a result of definite preaching of that doctrine and making the doctrine of Holiness a specialty, a great many were obedient to the faith, among whom were a number from the different churches, and especially the M. E. church.

While many in the different churches, and outside of all churches, sought and professed to have obtained the experience referred to above, this preaching raised a storm of persecution, preachers taking a hand in it, until one prominent preacher said to his church: "Sit down on holiness, and sit down on it hard." Well that is what they did; they sat down so hard that the doctrine and its advocates were spread over a good portion of the county. But the main issue

was not as much over doctrine of holiness of heart, as holiness of life; many claiming that the scriptures were opposed to the idea of a christian living without committing sin.

R. W. Sanderson was the first pastor, with W. S. Morrow as assistant, as the circuit then consisted of Cowden and Litchfield, with several societies between. The following year R. W. Sanderson was returned to what was then called the Cowden circuit, taking in Pleasant Grove and the old Ridge which is now part of the Tower Hill circuit.

T. H. Agnew was pastor in 1884, remaining one year, and was followed by T. J. Noland, with J. W. W. Kelley as assistant; the class at Bethany being organized that year, also the society at Pana in the same year.

Rev. W. C. Kelley was pastor in 1886-1887, during which time the Sylvan society was organized. In the fall of 1888 H. F. Ashcraft was sent as pastor, and remained one year, being followed by R. W. Sanderson, who remained two years. Then pastors followed in this order: J. A. Eason, 1891; D. Kimbro, 1892; H. G. Ahlemeyer, 1893-1894; W. R. Benham, 1895-1896; C. A. Fleming, 1897; B. F. Grigg, 1898-1900, remaining until March 20, 1901, when because of poor health he resigned his work and Rev. C. A. Fleming, of Greenville, Illinois, was appointed to finish out the year.

At present the Cowden circuit numbers 114 members and six probationers, a total of 120; four local preachers; three evangelists; two Sunday schools, with twenty-eight officers and teachers, and 152 scholars; value of church property, \$3,000.

Besides what the Free Methodist church represents in Cowden it has had the missionary spirit every since its organization, and every

HISTORIC SKETCH.

year, with very few exceptions, has had a camp meeting in close proximity to the town lasting about two weeks, during which hundreds have been saved and gone out to other neighborhoods and other denominations to carry the gospel of full salvation. At these annual gatherings there are able and spiritual men in charge, who have left "all" for Christ and have the work so at heart that God has ever been pleased to bless them with out-pouring of the spirit in Pentecostal measure.

A number of Cowden's most honored citizens are members of the F. M. church, toiling, sacrificing and contending for the faith once delivered to the saints. Among them we mention Lou Torrence, who was noted as a man of business in church and state. He is among the first to obtain the experience and defend the doctrine of Entire Sanctification. He met a violent death, being crushed by an infuriated beast, but "his works do follow him." Then there were James Frizzell, Milton Hunter, the Kesler Bros., besides others who were charter members, some of whom have gone to their reward, while others of them still walk these mortal shores and tell with burning zeal and holy fervor the trials and triumphs of their faith during nearly of a quarter of a century in which they have stood for the principles of righteousness and reform.

TOWER HILL.

The church at Tower Hill was organized by T. J. Noland, the pastor, and J. W. W. Kelley, in 1883, after a very successful revival meeting in which a few prominent people of the town received the doctrines and experience taught by the Free Methodists, i. e., repentance, faith, justification and sanctification.

The pastors of the church who have traveled the Tower Hill circuit since Bros. Noland and Kelley, are, respectively, as follows: Levi Cochran, 1884; A. J. Edwards, 1885; J. L. Wiliford, 1886; B. F. Grigg, 1887-1888; D. W. Salla, 1889-1900; M. A. Cox, 1891; W. W. Bruce, 1892-1893; A. J. Smith, 1894-1895; A. H. Ahlemeyer, 1896-1897-1898; A. L. Crumbly, 1899; J. F. Deremiah, 1900.

Among the prominent lay members of this society who ought to be mentioned are Mr. Frank Corley and wife, and Mr. John Sharrock.

The church at "the Hill" was built in 1884, and dedicated by W. B. W. Colt, with not one dollar of indebtedness at the time of dedication. At present there are three churches and a parsonage on the circuit. The second church was built at Cold Springs. During the labors of A. J. Smith in 1894 and '95 the church was built at Lakewood and the parsonage was enlarged.

SHELBYVILLE.

The class at Shelbyville was organized in 1884, by T. J. Noland and J. W. W. Kelley. The preachers following were: Sister Julia Thacker, Brothers Cox, Fouler, Good, Deremiah, Cochran, Johnson, McMillen, Johnson, re-appointed, Denton, Maning, Ella M. Smith and A. J. Smith. The church was built during the labors of Sister Thacker.

The society in the city and the one at Sylvan have been united as a circuit part of the time and the rest of the time divided into two appointments. Our work at Shelbyville has suffered from different causes, the principal one being that a certain class was led away with some who denounced all churches and overthrew the faith of others.

Among some of the leaders and charter

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members we mention William Bivins, J. W. Johnson, Sister Hart and Sister O'Brien. During the labors of Ella M. Smith, in 1900, and A. J. Smith, in 1901, the work has been greatly strengthened and some improvements made on the church building.

The society is still small, but most of the members can be found at class and prayer meeting, and are liberal in supporting the gospel. A very prosperous Sunday school is superintended by Mrs. Pearl Cox.

The next annual Free Methodist camp meeting will be held at Shelbyville on the fair grounds, where from fifty to one hundred tents are expected to be put up, and where a number of prominent workers will be present to help make the meeting a success.

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THE BAPTIST.

(By Rev. Audrey A. Todd.)

The Church of God is one of the primal factors in the development of any county. The hardy pioneer and the itinerating herald of the cross have together entered the wilderness and subdued it; one by the use of the axe and plough-share, the other by "the sword of the Spirit."

Different denominations have sent commissioned emissaries into these new fields, not to war upon each other, but to vie in holy emulation that the opening territory might become subjected to our Saviour.

Prominent among the great denominations thus sending out forerunners with Gospel tidings of great joy is the Baptist church with its millions of communicants.

An ordained minister of this denomination, Bushrod Henry by name, was the first to enter

the present limits of Shelby county in the interests of his church. In the year 1830, three years subsequent to the organization of the county, he preached in the village of Shelbyville. In the course of two years he had baptized over eighty persons and founded a church. He labored with all the energy of an apostle, and became greatly endeared to his people.

A modern house of worship was soon erected and Zion prospered. The pastor, however, began to disseminate the doctrines of one Alexander Campbell, and in a few years boldly declared himself in favor of these views. He accordingly, with most of his membership, voted in favor of striking the word "Baptist" from their denominational name, and became by their own act "The Church of Christ in Shelbyville." Thus it happens that the Baptist church is the local parent of a child of another name.

The subsequent work of the denomination in this city is subjoined below. From the beginning thus traced, the work has grown until there are now 10 churches within the county, with a total membership of 896, and a Sunday school enrollment of 502. No fact speaks better for any section of county than a corresponding development in church and school life with other interests of a secular nature.

We give a list of the churches, their membership, etc., that the reader may understand how the work has become disseminated through all parts of the county, and the relative importance of the proportions assumed.

Shelbyville—A. A. Todd, pastor; Walter C. Headen, Shelbyville, clerk; total membership, 219; Sunday school enrollment, 104; value of church property, \$5,000.

Shelby—E. Beckett, pastor; Miss Cora Pope, Oconee, clerk; total membership, 26.

Lakewood—M. C. Jones, pastor; C. F.

HISTORIC SKETCH.

Bowman, Lakewood, clerk; total membership, 26.

Little Flock—W. F. Buskirk, pastor; Daniel Miller, Robinson Creek, clerk; total membership, 37.

Moweaqua—Jos. B. Rogers, pastor; Rosella Thomas, Moweaqua, clerk; total membership, 344; Sunday school enrollment, 333; value of church property, \$5,000.

New Hope—M. C. Jones, pastor; Wm. Barton, Lakewood, clerk; total membership, 87.

Union—C. P. Roberts, pastor; Julia A. Calvert, Brunswick, clerk; total membership, 57.

Providence—C. P. Roberts, pastor; W. T. Neil, Tower Hill, clerk; total membership, 25.

Richland—G. W. Syfert, pastor; M. Richards, Strasburg, clerk; total membership, 69; Sunday school enrollment, 65; value of church property, \$1,200.

Windsor—Total membership, 6.

SHELBYVILLE.

The following is a more detailed account of the Baptist church in Shelbyville. In 1862 a second Baptist church, claiming no parentage from any previous organization was formed in the town. Rev. R. R. Coon, of Pana, appears to have superintended the formation of the work. He became pastor in 1862, resigning his work in the fall of 1864. In the spring of 1865, Rev. Wm. Stillwell, of Kentucky, was called as pastor, resigning in the spring of 1867, at which time the church seems to have become extinct.

The present Shelbyville Baptist church was organized on the 17th of September, 1868. Rev. W. H. Steadman was called as pastor, April 3, 1869. In 1870, the present church edifice was erected at a cost of \$8,600, located at the southwest corner of Wood and North Second streets. In June, 1871, Mr. Steadman resigned his pastorate, the church having a season of prosperity.

In September, 1871, Rev. J. H. Phillips, though personally unknown to the church, upon recommendation, was extended a unanimous call and served the church with great acceptance till the 31st of October, 1874.

In 1875, Rev. A. L. Seward served the church for six months, and in 1876, the church recalled Mr. Phillips, who ultimately accepted. His second resignation was effected September 24th, 1878, much to the reluctance of the Baptist people.

The next two years the church, crippled with a standing debt, continued only with occasional supply work. Rev. I. N. Hobart, Superintendent of State Missions, did much to liquidate the debt. Thomas M. Thornton may be mentioned as one of the most liberal givers.

In the fall of 1880, the church, now free of debt, extended a call to Rev. Wm. M. Barker, who served the church till January, 1883.

Rev. B. F. Patt, one of Shelbyville's untiring pastors, served the church six and one-half years, from April, 1883 until December, 1889.

Rev. John P. Styler served as pastor from the spring of 1890 to the spring of 1892. Rev. W. W. Williams served the church from December, 1892, to December, 1893.

Rev. L. H. Williams, a graduate of Shurtleff, served as pastor for four years, from June, 1894 until April, 1898.

Rev. J. F. Spilman from January, 1899 to October, 1899.

Rev. L. M. Goff from January, 1900 to October, 1900.

The present pastor, Rev. Audrey A. Todd, upon a unanimous call, accepted the pastorate and began his labors early in January, 1901. The church is united and is made up of some of Shelbyville's most excellent people. Every department of work is encouraging to the new pastor. The Sunday school, under the wise leadership

THOMAS H. RIGTER.



THOMAS H. GRAHAM.



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

DR. ANDREW C. JACKSON.

William Henry Jackson, the father of our subject, was one of the pioneers of Shelby county. He was a native of Ohio, coming to Illinois at an early day. His death did not occur until the present winter 1900-'01. His familiar figure was seen upon the streets until a very short time before the reaper cut down the long-standing grain. Mr. Jackson was a successful, honest, respected citizen whose name will long be remembered throughout the county. The mother of our subject was Mary Burke, of Pennsylvania, who some years prior to the death of her husband, crossed into the unseen. Andrew spent his early life upon a farm in Pickaway township and attended the district school. He early gave evidence of mental aptitude and he subsequently developed his training at Valparaiso, Ind., and at the Louisville Medical college, from which he was graduated in the class of '97. One year the doctor spent rusticating in the west; while there he rode upon a ranch as a cow-boy. In November, 1893, Andrew Jackson and Jennie, daughter of Robert and Sarah Benfiel, were united in marriage. Two sons have been born to them—James Roy, and Lloyd. The doctor began his practice at Henton (Prairie Bird) shortly after his graduation, where he has ever since enjoyed an increasing degree of confidence and respect among the country folk who surround him. The doctor is a friend of democracy politically, we could scarcely expect an Andrew Jackson to be otherwise; and fraternally he is a Modern Woodman. As a practitioner he stands well among the medical

fraternity of the county. He seems to understand and successfully treat the different forms of disease. We predict that he will bear untarnished the good name of his father.

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GUY CUTLER.

The editor of the Findlay Enterprise, Guy Cutler, is a well-known citizen of Shelby county, having lived within its borders most of his lifetime. He was born on a farm in Rose township, May 10, 1871, the son of James T. and Lucretia (Guion) Cutler. His education began in the district schools, and ended in the public schools of Shelbyville.

Early in life Mr. Cutler evidenced an aptitude for journalism and the printing business, and learned the printers' trade in an office in Shelbyville. Later he went to Chicago, where he spent several years in a large job printing establishment, and became a very efficient workman. One evidence of this is the fact that for three years he had charge of the United States Army printing office, a position which he held to the eminent satisfaction of those concerned.

For a time Mr. Cutler was proprietor of the Windsor Gazette, but in 1892 he disposed of that plant and established the Enterprise at Findlay. Two years later he sold that paper, and spent the succeeding three years in Chicago. In 1897 he returned to Findlay and repurchased the Enterprise, and since that time has devoted himself to making his business a success, and is fast

BIOGRAPHIES.

accomplishing his purpose. Prior to the presidential campaign of 1900, the Enterprise was independent in politics, but in that campaign came out as a staunch republican organ.

Perchance the most pleasing event of Mr. Cutler's life occurred on the 10th of August, 1892, when he was married to Miss Belle Gilpin, daughter of Isaac and Ellen (Reynolds) Gilpin, of Windsor. She is a genial, sociable lady, and has many very warm friends in the eastern side of Shelby county. Mr. and Mrs. Cutler are the parents of four bright and pleasant children, the names of whom are as follows: Margaret, Minnie, James G. and S. E. The home life of this family is comfortable and happy, and they are held in high esteem by the residents of Findlay.

Socially, Mr. Cutler is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and is the present Worshipful Master of Findlay Lodge, No. 831.

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SAMUEL H. WRIGHT.

The subject of this biography is a son of Shelby county. All his life has been spent here save a period of six years which he spent in farming and stock raising in the state of Kentucky. He may be said to be of English-German parentage. His father, William, was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, and settled on section 26, Todd's Point township, this county, in his young manhood. The mother was a native of Tennessee; her maiden name was Martha Dowdy. She came to Illinois early in life with her parents. When Mr. Wright settled in Todd's Point there were scarcely more than a half dozen families in the east end of the township. Into his home were born nine children, only five of whom are still living; but, strangely, they all reside in Shelby county.

Our subject had only a common school education, but he made good use of the meagre opportunities afforded him. As a young man he was not vigorous in body, and was accordingly given the work of a herdsman. He frequently had charge of three or four hundred head of stock as they fed over these rich prairies. The father, as may be inferred from the preceding statement, was a very successful farmer; at the time of his death he was one of the most well-to-do and favorably known men of the county. Samuel Henry began farming for himself about two miles from his birthplace when he was about twenty-five years of age. In the year 1870, on the fourteenth day of February, he was united in marriage to Miss Amanda Albro, of this county. One child was born to them which died in infancy. Mr. Wright suffered the loss of his girl-wife and was subsequently married on the 27th day of January, 1876, to Miss Nancy Shouse, of Henry county, Kentucky. Six children have blessed this union, one of whom (Ernest) died in infancy, and one (Adda May) died in the flower of her young womanhood, at the age of twenty-one years. The living are: Martha Ellis, Virginia Pearl, a graduate from the city school; Daniel D., who is to be graduated this year, and Newton. For three years Mr. Wright conducted an implement business on South Morgan street. For nine years he has been a resident of the city, having come here to educate his children. Honor is due the man who having not received such training himself, still recognizes the value of it, and provides thus amply for his children. Mr. Wright has been clerk of his township and in many other ways has been made to feel the confidence which his friends repose in him. On the financial and governmental questions of the day he is in spirit a republican, but, yielding obedience to the voice of his own conscience, he votes the prohibition ticket. We are glad to re-

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cord one such voter in the annals of Shelby county history. Mr. Wright and family are devoted members of the Christian church. They live in a handsome residence of their own on North Broadway, in addition to which they own a farm of three hundred twenty acres of good land. The family is such that we feel safe in predicting that for years to come the name "Wright" will be among the honored ones of the county.

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DR. ODES O. WHITTINGTON.

On the fourth day of October, 1869, the subject of this sketch was born. His birth place was in Cold Spring township, this county. His parents, Joseph and Joanna (Buchanan) Whittington have borne ten children, two of whom died in infancy, and Raleigh, July 26th, 1897: the living are: Hattie, Ella, Noi, Ida, William H., Frank, Odes O., of whom we write.

Dr. Whittington was reared to hard labor, being born on a farm; he is another example of that sterling manhood which has its rise in rural life. His early educational advantages were limited to those furnished by the district school, but at the age of twenty-one years he was able to gratify one of his ambitions, and matriculated with the Missouri Medical college in St. Louis. He was graduated from this institution in the class of '97, with eighty-two other students. At the time of his graduation he was marked 100 in his chemistry examination, thus winning the prize offered by Prof. Chas. O. Curtman, one of the most eminent chemists in the country.

In 1897 he began the practice of his chosen profession in the village of Herrick, and in the following year formed a partnership with Dr. Geo. S. Bolt, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume. Our subject has come to be recognized as a good practitioner; he keeps

abreast of the times, sparing no pains to be able to recognize and successfully treat disease. It may be stated that Dr. Whittington has devoted his life to this one thing; his only other occupation being that of a hardware dealer, which served but as a stepping-stone to his college course. He is identified with the Masonic and K. of P. lodges, and is admired for his social qualities. He goes to Coffeen, Illinois, as mining physician, and takes with him the respect of all who know him. We venture to predict that he will one day stand high in professional circles at large.

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EZEKIEL K. SCHWARTZ.

The subject of this review was born in Lewiston, Mifflin county, Pennsylvania. He is the son of German-Swiss parentage; his father's name was Frederick and his mother's Elizabeth (Kohler) Schwartz. Ezekiel was reared upon a farm, and attended the district school in his native town. He subsequently spent some time in the Lewiston Academy, leaving the same at the age of twenty years and coming with his parents to Shelby county, where they settled upon a farm seven miles north of Shelbyville. In the year 1862 he enlisted for service in the Union army as a private in Co. B. 115th Illinois Vol. As a soldier he saw much hardship and participated in a large number of severe engagements: so bravely and well did he discharge his soldierly duties that he was the subject of promotion, and in June, 1865, was honorably discharged bearing commission as first lieutenant.

On the twenty-sixth day of December, 1866, he was married to Miss Joanna, daughter of Nelson and Angelina (Kyes) Scott. The couple are the parents of the following named children: Frederick, Elgin, Bertha, Estella, Irma, Grace,

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Sula, and Ralph, living; Mary and Luther, dead, and two others deceased in infancy.

They lived upon their farm until October, 1892, when they removed to Findlay and engaged in the mercantile business. In this line he has been successful; he carries a large line of general merchandise and groceries, and is regarded as a reliable business man. His life is a living example of sturdy, upright manhood.

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JAMES B. SINGER.

The proprietor of the Climax Roller Mills of Stewardson, Illinois, is the son of Christian and Mary Singer. His birth place was in Wayne county, Ohio, the event occurring in the year 1856. He attended the village school in his native town until he was eighteen years of age, when he left home and began making his own way in life. He first stopped at Neoga, Illinois, where he learned the milling business while working for his brother, W. H. Singer. He afterwards formed a partnership with his brother, dissolving the same in 1883. After this time he removed to Stewardson in 1894, and started the enterprise which he still conducts. Mr. Singer took for a wife Miss Emma Lewis. They have been the parents of three children—Bessie Ward, and James E., who are living, and William, who died at the age of nine years.

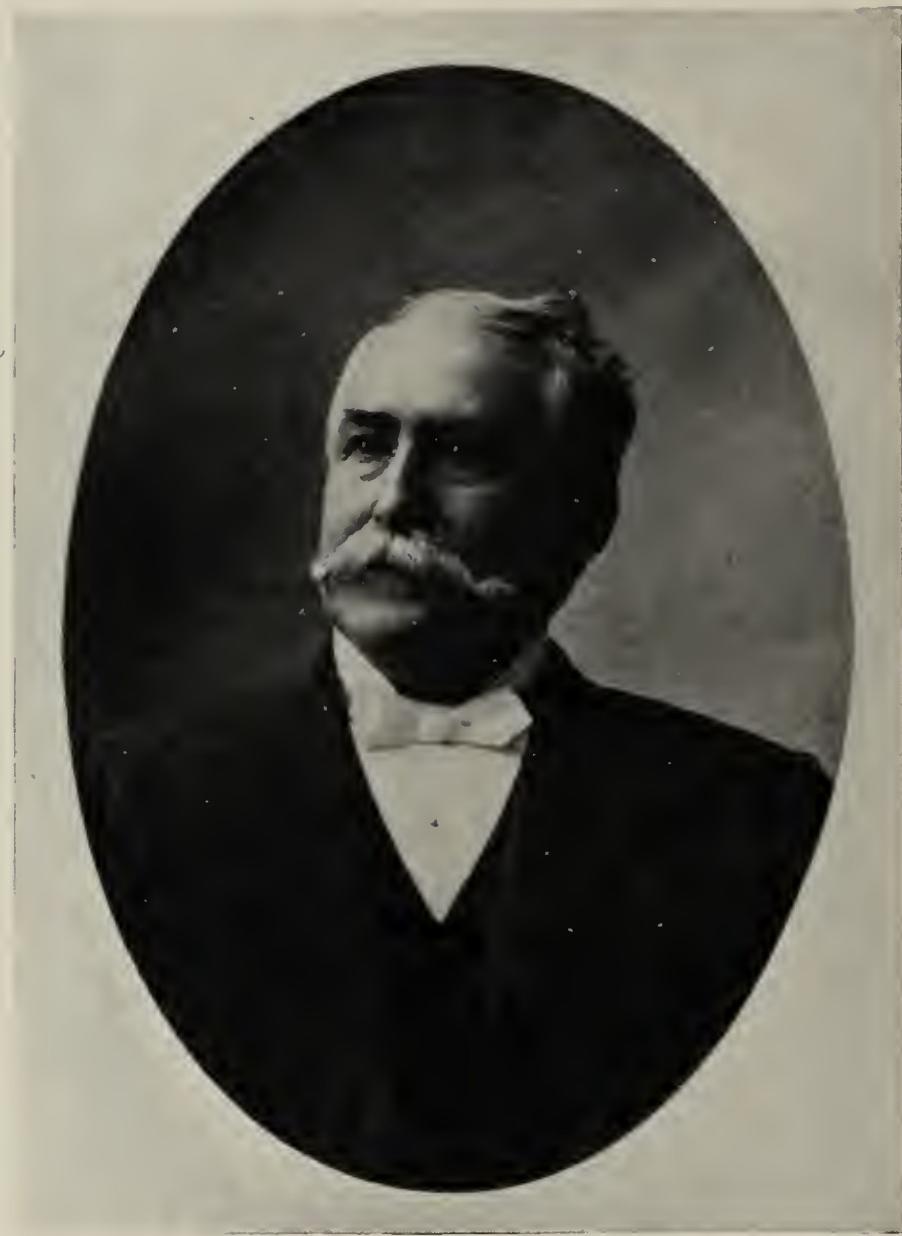
Mr. Singer is a member of Stewardson lodge A. F. & A. M. No. 541, and Neoga Chapter No. 150, R. A. M.; he is also a member of the Modern Woodmen and of the Methodist Episcopal church. The life of Mr. Singer is an illustration of the possibilities in honest effort; he has made his way unaided, no inherited wealth giving him his start in life. He now stands well in the social, business and religious life of the community in which he lives. We have ever felt that the highest words of praise fittingly belong to

that class of our American manhood which arises from obscurity to places of eminence and trust.

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SAMUEL A. IGO.

Our subject was born in the city of Shelbyville, Illinois, on the 14th day of July, 1864. His father, John Igo, was a native of Ohio, and came to the city named when he was but one and one-half years of age. Though of the age just mentioned he rode a horse across the Okaw when coming into the city; we will leave the reader to conjecture how this was accomplished. The mother of Samuel was Harriet Phelps. His boyhood was spent in labors upon a farm and in attending school. He was one of the first two pupils to take his seat in the new school building; and here he laid the foundations for the business success which now characterizes him. On April fourteenth, A. D. 1886 he was married to Miss Ada Lantz, of Shelbyville. The father of the bride, Philip Lantz, was one of the much respected residents of the city, both in business and social circles. Mr. Igo for a time engaged in the restaurant and bakery business, but for the greater portion of his adult life has given his attention to the breeding and sale of choice stock, including both horses and cattle; of Jersey cattle he makes a specialty. In the year 1900 he shipped about twenty car loads of live stock from the Shelbyville yards. His business is largely conducted from his office in the "Water Tower Barn" where he has been for the last three years. Mr. Igo is fraternally a Modern Woodman. He is also a member of the Christian church. Politically he has ever been a democrat, though ever caring more for business than for politics. He is a man of good address, good habits, and good standing. Both Mr. and Mrs. Igo are well received wherever known.



P. F. Dorr

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THEODORE F. DOVE.

Theodore Franklin Dove was born in a rural district of Ohio, about nine miles from the city of Lancaster, the date of his birth having been April 22, 1846. The paternal ancestry was German, but his father, Elijah Dove, was a native of the Buckeye state, born in 1811, and one of the pioneer tillers of its soil, while his mother, nee Mary Small, was a lady of Welsh descent. Theodore F. Dove was one of fifteen children born to them, he having seven brothers and seven sisters, seven of them older and seven younger than himself. Reared upon the home farm, and in the moderate circumstances common to the large families of early settlers, he learned in childhood and youth, lessons of industry and economy that contributed greatly to his success in later years. At the same time he acquired an aptitude and taste for agriculture on a large scale which has since become highly developed. Meanwhile, however, he has developed many years to the cultivation of his mind and to intellectual work. At the age of twenty he had only such education as he had been able to obtain in the district schools of Ohio, but he then resolved to supplement it with academic and university study. Accordingly, he entered an academy at Pleasantville, Ohio, where he advanced so well that at twenty-two he became professor of mathematics and natural philosophy in the institution, where he continued to teach until the spring of 1869. During the following summer he was variously employed, always to the end of increasing the facilities for higher education, and in the fall he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, where, by doing double work, he graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1871. Subsequently the degree of A. M. was conferred upon him by his alma mater. After leaving col-

lege he resumed teaching, and devoted a considerable portion of his time to that profession until 1876, superintending schools at West Jefferson, Ohio, from 1871 to 1872, and at Mechanicsburg, Ohio, from 1872 to 1874. He served also as superintendent of the schools of Shelbyville, Illinois, during the two years prior to 1876. Meantime he had read law, and in 1875 gained admittance to the bar at Delaware, Ohio, and opened an office in the city of Columbus, in the same state, where he practiced until October 16, 1876. Soon afterwards he formed a partnership with Hon. W. J. Henry, of Danville, Illinois, and in the following April the firm removed to Shelbyville, in this state, where it continued until November 12, 1879, when, by mutual consent, it was dissolved. After the dissolution of the firm of Henry & Dove, our subject opened an office alone and met with phenomenal success. Advancing at once to the front rank as a reliable counsellor and trustworthy adviser, he has always sought and obtained that kind of legal business and requires sound and safe advice and management rather than the petty and showy trial branches of the profession; and today he has one of the most pleasant and lucrative practices enjoyed by any lawyer in Central Illinois. His sound judgment and his quick conception of a business proposition have contributed greatly to his financial success. He has been the legal adviser and one of the directors of the Shelby County State Bank since the establishment of that institution at Shelbyville in 1895, and was, likewise, a leading spirit in its organization. On the 27th day of December, 1877, Mr. Dove was united in marriage to Miss Alta W. Clark, of Mechanicsburg, Ohio, a graduate of the Ohio Wesleyan Female college at Delaware and a lady of general culture and high character. She died on the 24th of May, 1896, leaving two sons—

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Theodore C., and Franklin R., aged seventeen and fourteen years, respectively. The elder son was a soldier of the Spanish-American war, early enlisting in Company K, 14th Ohio National Guards—afterwards known as the 4th Ohio. After remaining one month in camp at Columbus, this regiment was ordered to Chickamauga, then to Norfolk, Virginia, and thence to Porto Rico, where it remained until discharged from service. On June 16, 1900, the young ex-soldier and his brother, who is known as Roy, sailed for Europe with the intention of making an extended tour of England and the Continent on the bicycle. This plan they successfully carried out, and at the present time have returned to their studies in the Ohio Wesleyan University, where they expect to complete the classical course, the one in two, and the other in three years. To return to our immediate subject—Theodore Franklin Dove was married for the second time on August 25, 1898, to Miss Mary Belle Williams, of Columbus, Ohio; and Mr. and Mrs. Dove are now pleasantly domiciled on their fine estate in the city of Shelbyville, Illinois. The experience of our subject has helped to verify that gratifying assurance of Emerson, that whatever we earnestly desire in youth comes crowding upon us in later years. It has always been an ambition of Mr. Dove to become the proprietor of extensive and valuable farm lands, and today he is known as one of the largest land owners in Shelby county. In politics he is a democrat of the Jacksonian type, and has but little sympathy with coalitions for temporary success. He is a member of the Masonic order and belongs, also, to the Modern Woodmen of America. He has held a life-long membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, to the support of which he has contributed freely of his means. Mr. Dove is a devoted and self-sacrificing friend

(and a silent foe), and his hospitable, genial nature, together with his family and church environment, have made him a social factor in the community that is much sought and enjoyed.

* * * *

JAMES POLK BENNETT.

The curtain which hangs between us and the past of our family history seems to be of exceedingly frail texture. Only a slight pull would be needed to tear it aside or rend it in twain. Alas! how easy it is to be deceived. The curtain may be thin and delicate, but the greatest efforts of men do not suffice to rend it or draw it aside. Their ancestry is shrouded in a dim mist dying away into darkness before the fourth generation is reached. How few there are who can speak with any certainty concerning their great, great grandfather; yet to this somewhat remote ancestor, we must go for our beginning in our genealogical and biographical sketch of James P. Bennett. This grandfather, twice "great," was an Englishman possessed of wealth and ambition. His attention was turned to this New World, and in it he saw an opportunity to increase his fortune. He, being the owner of a ship, fitted it out as a trader, and came with his two sons to America. He loaded his vessel with a rich cargo, and leaving his sons here, perhaps to look after future cargoes, and perhaps to seek their own fortunes, set sail for England. Neither the enterprising sailor nor his ship were ever heard from again. Perhaps the staunch little trader was overwhelmed in a storm, and today makes one of the great number which sleep upon the ocean's bed instead of gallantly sailing its surface; or, it may be that the crew threw the master and owner into the sea and ran away with his vessel. This latter view is quite generally held by the family.

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The two boys left in this country, soon became deeply devoted to the land of their adoption as is evidenced by the fact, they fought, side by side, under Washington, in the great Revolutionary struggle. One of these brothers was killed during the war, thus baptising the name of Bennett in patriot blood. The remaining brother, who was with Washington at Yorktown, when the haughty Cornwallis surrendered his sword, at the close of the war settled in Virginia. To him were given three sons: William, Elisha and Richard. Elisha settled in Kentucky at an early date, while William and Richard became pioneers in Tennessee. In the year 1835, Richard came to this state, soon after which he died, leaving a widow and eight children, six of whom were girls.

How singularly are families broken up and scattered! A mormon elder came into the neighborhood where this widow resided, conducted special meetings, and made many converts, amongst whom she was one. The four elder children in the family did not embrace the new faith; hence it came to pass, when the Mormon converts left this state, the widow and her four younger children left with them. We may fairly state the breaking up and final separation of this family is but a sample of the baneful effects of Mormonism, wherever introduced. William Bennett, father of the one whose name heads this sketch, was one of the four children left here by this mormonized mother, his three eldest sisters making up the remainder of this unfortunate quartet.

A. D. 1838, William was united in marriage with Miss Lavina Curry. To them were born six children—Dr. R. F., who is now Superintendent of the Insane Asylum at Anna, Illinois: J. P., of whom we now write, a resident of Shelbyville; R. E.; W. A and Mesdames D. F. Storm

and Preston Colson, all of whom reside upon farms in Ash Grove township. Mr. Bennett, the father of these six children, is 84 years of age; but is still in excellent health and in full possession of all bodily and mental faculties. It is with pleasure that he talks of the growth of Shelby county under the vigorous hand of her pioneers, and their names and characteristics are all fresh in his memory. His active mind vividly recalls the days to which the words of Longfellow's immortal *Evangeline* may fittingly apply:

"Neither locks had they to their doors, nor bars
to their windows;
But their dwellings were open as day, and the
hearts of their owners;
There the richest was poor, and the poor lived
in abundance."

The life of William Bennett has been characterized by religious devotion. For forty-seven, out of sixty-five years he has lived in Ash Grove, he has been an elder in the Christian church. The record of his life may be summed up by the use of this epigram: a long life and a good life.

James Polk Bennett was born into this world on the 24th day of February, 1845. His boyhood days were spent in the hardy pursuits of a pioneer's son. His educational advantages were meagre, receiving, only, the training afforded by a district school. The lessons taught to him in the school of life were well learned, and with the coming of maturity's years, we find him well prepared to make his way to the heights of business success. On the 4th day of March, 1866, he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Wilson, a granddaughter of "Jackie" Storm, the first Christian preacher in the county. Mr. Bennett received from his father the gift of forty acres of unimproved land; and, from his father-in-law, the gift of a log house. He cut a

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road through the brush, on the forty he now called his own, to a suitable place on which to erect the house which had been given him. The house having been moved and set up, the young wife and a few plain necessaries moved in. Mr. Bennett tied his team to his wagon, and began clearing his land, splitting rails to fence the same. It was from this humble beginning as a nucleus, that Mr. and Mrs. Bennett toiled and economized through a period of twenty-nine years, and at last gathered about them a comfortable competency, consisting of more than five hundred acres of good land.

Mr. and Mrs. Bennett are the parents of seven children. Laura, the eldest, died in her 21st year. Besides those in her father's family, she left a husband and little girl (Etta Lemons) to mourn her loss. Miss Etta is still in her grandfather's home, where, ever since her mother's death, she has received kindly and protecting care. Cora, is the wife of Mr. T. E. Ridges, a respectable farmer of Ash Grove; Oscar, a bright and genteel young man, is an able assistant in the abstract office of Craig & Garis; and John is now a student in Decatur, Ill. Two boys and one girl were taken from the home in their infancy. God oftentimes reaches out a hand of love, and plucks the brightest and sweetest flowers to grace his own dwelling place.

Mr. and Mrs. Bennett both united with the Christian church in early youth, hence their home has been a christian one. No greater tribute can be paid to the piety of these parents, than to say, all their children are with them united in the visible church of Christ. In politics, Mr. Bennett has ever been a republican, though his early surroundings were entirely democratic.

In August of 1898, Mr. Bennett and wife left

their farm; since which they have lived in a beautiful home of their own in the city previously mentioned. Without attempting any fulsome or flattering praise, we can truthfully state, their lives had been without a disfiguring scar. Their circle of friends is large, which circle is the only limit that circumscribes the respect and loving esteem in which they are held.

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THOMAS B. SHOAFF.

One of the most prominent men of Shelbyville today, is Thomas B. Shoaff, editor and manager of The Shelby County Leader. He is a native of Greenville, Illinois, where he was born on the 23rd of February, 1847. His parents were James and Nancy Shoaff. His father was a newspaper man for many years, and from him Thomas inherited his journalistic tendencies. Mr. Shoaff was publisher of the first paper in the following named towns: Shelbyville, Greenville, Bloomington, Pekin, and Decatur, and was publishing the Edgar County Gazette, in Paris, Illinois, at the time of his death, which occurred on April 12, 1874. Mrs. Shoaff is the daughter of Dennis Hanks, who was a cousin of Abraham Lincoln, and was at one time a tutor of the boy "Abe." Mr. Hanks lived to the ripe old age of ninety-six, at his home in Charleston, Illinois. By these genealogical facts it will be seen that the subject of this sketch is a third cousin of the martyred President.

Thomas received his education in the public schools of Decatur, and early began his career as a journalist. At the death of his father, he, together with his eldest brother, continued the publication of The Gazette until January of 1881. Thomas then removed to Danville, and commenced the publication of The Danville Leader.

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At the expiration of seven years, the name of the paper was changed to The Daily Press, and Mr. Shoaff continued the management of it until August, 1897. He was then made manager of The Democrat, of that city, which position he competently filled until he came to Shelbyville, February 1, 1900, and took charge of the paper with which he is now engaged.

The marriage of Mr. Shoaff occurred in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Nov. 15, 1871, when he was united to Miss Ella W. Lytle. The children born to them are James, Clare, La Vone and Douglas Shoaff, all of whom are living and at home. The domestic life of the family has always been of the happiest and the children are of such as any parents might well be proud.

During the Rebellion Mr. Shoaff was too young to enlist as a regular soldier, but, being eager for the fray, he went with C. R. Griggs, sutler of the 25th Illinois Vol.

Mr. Shoaff has never sought notoriety, but has led a quiet, unpretentious life, devoting his time to the management and operation of newspapers, and is thoroughly acquainted with the art preservative in all its details. With his capable assistants he makes of The Shelby County Leader one of the most readable newspapers in this part of Illinois. Mr. Shoaff is a member of the Episcopal church, and has, with his estimable family, the respect of a wide circle of friends.

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ELGIN H. MARTIN.

Born in Jersey, Ohio, June 5th, 1842; the 4th son of Mark D. and Julia Martin. His mother died March 4, 1846, leaving 5 children—all boys; the subject of this sketch lacked three months of being 4 years old. He found a home with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Josiah W.

Ward, where he remained until his tenth year. His father taking a second wife, the family was again brought together at the home in Central College, Ohio.

In April, 1858, the family came west and settled in Shelbyville, Elgin being then in his 16th year. He attended school at Shelby Seminary until the family went on a farm in the spring of 1860. When the war broke out in 1861, Elgin's brother Thaddeus K., two years older than himself, was one of the first to enlist. In the fall—in the month of November—that brother's remains were brought home and buried near where the family lived. In March another brother, two years older than he who had gone, took the dead brother's place in his company and regiment, and a month later was severely wounded in the bloody battle of Shiloh, and was furloughed home. In July, 1862, impelled by a sense of duty to his country, and not from any love of excitement and adventure, Elgin enlisted and became a sergeant in Co. B, of the 115th Illinois infantry. The regiment had its full share of marching and fighting, and though frequently under fire, among others going through the sanguinary battle of Chickamauga unscathed, though his regiment lost nearly half its number in killed and wounded. He escaped being touched by rebel bullets until in a trivial skirmish, February 24, 1864, in front of Dalton, Ga., he received a flesh wound in his good right arm and for seven months was incapacitated for duty by reason of gangrene in the wound, contracted while in the army hospital at Nashville, Tenn. Four of the seven months were passed at home on furlough. After returning to duty, being unable to carry a musket he was detailed first as orderly for Capt. Slocum, who was on detached service in Chattanooga, Tenn., and later was given command of the provost guard of "Whit-

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taker's Iron Brigade," 1st Brigade, 1st Division, Fourth Corps, Army of the Cumberland, which position he held until muster-out in June, 1865.

Returning home, Mr. Martin for a season resumed his studies at Shelby Seminary, then as previously, under the management of Mr. C. W. Jerome, who had served as quartermaster of the 115th regiment. He afterward—in 1866—went south and for two years acted as salesman and collector for his uncle, D. C. Martin, who conducted a supply store in Port Hudson, La. Mr. Martin returned north in the early winter of 1868, and took a position pressed upon him by his brother, Park T., as local editor of The Shelbyville Union. This position he held until the spring of 1872, when he established The Republican in Effingham, which about a year later was sold, when the founder returned to Shelbyville and resumed his place on The Union, which was held until 1890, with the exception of about a year spent in Troy, N. Y., and Carbondale, Ill., working at the case as a printer.

While editing The Union he was instrumental in the organization of the first loan association in Shelbyville, and when a few years later he felt that there was a disposition to run the association in the interests of the officers and directors rather than the stockholders, he initiated a movement that crystallized in the organization of The Laborers' Loan, yet a potent factor in the building up of Shelbyville. In 1886, co-operating with his brother, Horace L., he established The daily edition of The Union, which he edited until April, 1890; he was appointed postmaster, serving in that capacity until September, 1897. Since September, 1898, he has been his brother Harry M.'s, assistant as postmaster.

September 11, 1872, Mr. Martin was married to Miss Matie P. Sylvester, of Saratoga county, New York. Mrs. Martin was the only

daughter of Bartlett and Sarah F. Sylvester, and was born November 17th, 1851, in Greenfield, Saratoga county. She was educated in Jamesville Academy, Jamesville, N. Y., and came west in 1868 to visit relatives and here met him with whom later she was joined in marriage. Her family removed to Shelbyville in 1872, but returned to York state a year later.

Six children have been born to them—five sons and one daughter. Five are still living—one is not—Harry S. The eldest was killed by the cars, April 9, 1891, aged 17 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin have long been members of the Methodist Episcopal church and have always been active in Sunday school and church work. At present and for a number of years he has held license as a local preacher. Politically he has always been a republican, though never a bitter partisan, and hence numbers among his friends many men of all parties.

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ERVIN HOMRIGHOUS.

In Fairfield county, Ohio, on the 28th day of March, 1836, the home of John and Magdalene (Wagner) Homrighous was gladdened by the birth of the son, whose name heads this biographical survey. The home into which Ervin was born was a well-to-do and thrifty one. The father followed the calling of an undertaker or as it was more frequently termed in an early day, a coffin-maker. So prosperous and contented with his business was Mr. Homrighous, that he seemed wholly unaffected by the spirit of emigration which poured its constant stream of civilization into the prairie region of the middle west. The marked degree to which this statement is true, can best be appreciated when it is further stated, he lived and died within one and one-half

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miles of the place of his birth; and, at the time of his death, was the oldest undertaker in the United States. The boy Ervin received a common school education in his native village of Royalton, together with an industrial education in his father's shop.

At the age of twenty-two years, Mr. Homrighous was united in marriage with Miss Mary Allen, a young woman of his native town; and, judging by the step almost immediately taken by this young couple, she was a girl of pluck, as well as grace. Their decision was made to seek for themselves a home farther west. Accordingly, equipped with a two-horse team, and the usual outfit of a home-seeker, this young bride and groom journeyed, for their bridal tour, in a westerly direction for twelve and one-half days, until they reached the rich and fecund prairies of Shelby, where they determined to make their home. It was during this long and tedious drive that Mr. Homrighous had an experience which he will never forget. There was no other way than to stop wherever night overtook the "mover." Hence it often happened that accommodations were meagre and unsatisfactory enough. Besides this, "movers" were regarded as a nuisance and common prey for all. Many thefts and baser crimes were daily perpetrated upon the pioneer home-seekers; and, for the most part, wholly escaped punishment. It was only by rare insight into human character, or a direct presentiment, that Mr. Homrighous on a certain night, while quartered with an Indiana settler, took unusual precautionary measures which resulted in his protection against burglary or perhaps some worse experience. By such scenes we are reminded of Carleton's words:

"It aint the funniest thing a man can do,
Existing in a country when it's new,
My girl wife was brave as she was good,
And helped me in every blessed way she could."

There were born to this couple four children, all of whom are still living. John H. is the first-born, and is a successful dentist in Mattoon, Ill. Milo F. took for a wife Miss Dora Levering, of Shelbyville, and is now a resident of Tuscola, Ill., where he is engaged as a money broker. Meta M., the only daughter, is the wife of Geo. Penwell, a native of Shelbyville, but who now resides in Eureka, Kan. Frank, the youngest son, married Miss Clarie Day, of Moweaqua, and is engaged in the jewelry business in Assumption, Ill.

For seven years Mr. and Mrs. Homrighous lived on a farm, during much of which time he was engaged in mechanical pursuits. In the year 1865, they moved to Shelbyville, where he engaged in mercantile, and afterwards in manufacturing business, which was continued until A. D. 1880. In the year 1870, Mr. Homrighous was bereft of the wife who had been the sharer of his early struggles and successes. In April, 1871, he took another helpmeet in the person of Miss Esther, daughter of David H. and Samantha (Carver) Penwell, of Shelbyville, who is his much respected present wife.

Two sons have blessed this union, Charles D., and Robert. The elder of these, Charles, is wedded to Miss May Cones, of Shelbyville, and is a prosperous jeweler in Tuscola, Ill., while Robert, a bright young man of good and gentlemanly manners, is the able assistant in his father's store.

In the year 1880, Mr. Homrighous bought out the jewelry business conducted by Patrick Mitchel, where Bolinger's grocery now stands. Four years later, he built the handsome store where he now conducts his lucrative and successful business.

Perhaps no other single distinguishing feature of Mr. Homrighous is so marked as his musical ability. He has a voice of singular

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power and penetration. For more than a dozen of years he has been a member of the Big Four quartet. The efficient work of this quartet has been felt in three presidential campaigns, as is attested by the fact that their services have been in demand in all parts of the state.

Mr. Homrighous, with the exception of two years, has been the leader of the choir of the First M. E. church since 1866. Not only has he been present on the Lord's Day, and prominent occasions to direct the singing, but, we note with pleasure, a chorister whose voice is heard in the prayer-meeting and Sunday school.

Of one who was truly great, it is said: "John did no miracle." So, of the life whose record we have penned, we claim no miracle, but point out the truth—a life lived in Christ is great in possibility, influence and destiny. Such is the life of Ervin Homrighous.

* * * *

WILLIAM C. KELLEY.

In attempting to write the biography of such a man as Attorney Wm. C. Kelley, we realize, more than ever, the futility of mere words in delineating truthfully the life of the man. It is the character which makes man. There is a place of mere achievement, but it cannot be substituted for the higher place of intellectual, moral and spiritual growth. The subject of this sketch has reached the higher plane. But then—Mr. Kelley is of such a modest and retiring disposition we refrain from any more eulogy in this connection, though it be well-merited.

On a farm in Rural township, of this county, Mr. Kelley was born, July 31, 1849. He was the son of Chattin Kelley, who died in Sweet Springs, Missouri, in 1898, and Elizabeth (Smith) Kelley, who died in this city in 1865. When William was but seventeen years of age, the

family removed to Shelbyville, of which, afterward, the father was mayor for three successive terms, and was prominent among the citizens of the place.

Mr. Kelley received the beginning of his education in the common schools, later taking a course of study in the Okaw Seminary. In 1868, he went to Lexington, Kentucky, and entered upon a four years' classical course, and was graduated with honors at the expiration of the same. In 1874 he began reading law with Judge Anthony Thornton and George R. Wendling, who were then partners. Two years later he was admitted to practice at the bar.

A few months subsequent to this, or on December 2, 1876, he took a partner for life in the person of Miss Antha D. Harper, of Tower Hill. She was the daughter of A. V. and Ann E. T. Harper, the latter of whom now lives in Chicago. Three children have blessed the union, viz: Bessie, who died in 1892, when but fourteen years of age, just when her life was blossoming into that which promised to be a beautiful, noble character. Her death was the kind that uplifts mankind, and turns one's thoughts to holy things; William Lloyd was born July 27, 1887, and is a happy-hearted, sunny-tempered lad, with an inquiring disposition, who bids fair to emulate his father's example; and Leo Harper, a beautiful child, born December 29, 1897. The home life of Mr. Kelley is pleasant in the extreme. He possesses a large library of miscellaneous character, though of the better class of literature, and being of a naturally studious disposition, Mr. Kelley thoroughly enjoys his books and his home life, never so happy as when seated by a glowing fire, with his wife and children about him.

In May, 1877, Mr. Kelley formed a law partnership with H. S. Mouser, who afterward went to Dakota. In 1880, he was elected State's

DR. THEODORE THOMPSON.



DR. O. O. WHITTINGTON.



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Attorney, and so acceptably did he perform the duties of the office, that his constituents re-elected him in 1884. He enjoys the distinction of receiving, in this election, the largest majority of votes over his opponent ever received in this county, running several hundred ahead of his ticket. Since the expiration of his second term as said attorney, Mr. Kelley has occupied no other public office.

In November, 1892, a partnership was formed with Howland J. Hamlin, now Attorney General of Illinois, which alliance still exists. There is extensive mention of Mr. Kelley in the chapter on "The Bar," in this volume, so we forbear making further comment on him in this connection.

With his wife and son, Lloyd, Mr. Kelley is a member of the Christian church, and is faithful in his attendance and support of divine worship. For some time he has been elder in that church.

* * * *

THEODORE THOMPSON.

"The truest test of civilization is not the census, nor the size of the cities, nor the crops; no, but the kind of man the country turns out."—Emerson.

The successful young man whose name appears at the head of this sketch is the eldest son of Alton and Matilda (Marshall) Thompson. Both Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are natives of the "Keystone" state, coming to this county in the year 1859, and 1866, respectively. To them have been born three other children, Lida, who is the wife of James Marshall, an electrician at Niagara Falls, New York; Gardner M., who at the present time is a student in the law department of the University of Michigan, and whose course is complete with the present school year; and Ray C., who is still at home.

Theodore was born at Prairie Home, Illinois, on the first day of November, 1872. His boyhood life was spent upon his father's farm, and to hard labor he is certainly not a stranger; but, amid the exacting duties of farm life, opportunity was found for study. The boy had a thirst for knowledge; and be it stated to the credit of the parents, they too cherished fond educational ambitions for their son. There seems to have been an understanding of Theodore with himself and with his parents that he should devote his life to the study and practice of medicine. While yet in his 17th year, this boy, who was destined to rise beyond the confining environs of farm life, entered the school at Normal, Illinois, and completed in eleven terms the work required in twelve. This he was able to accomplish by reading his Caesar during vacation time, while driving a team upon the farm at home, and reciting that which he read to a local Presbyterian minister. He also read Homer out of school, successfully passed the examinations on the same and was graduated in the class of '94.

In the fall of 1894, Mr. Thompson entered the Rush Medical college, of Chicago, as a freshman. But again, his studious habits, when out of school, were to stamp their approval upon his work. He read bacteriology, biology and related subjects, between the semesters; passed the required examinations and received credit for this work, thus completing in three years the full four years' course. The year previous to his graduation, he was one of four in a class of twenty competing students who were licensed to practice medicine. Backed by a determined purpose and a good character, and assisted by the appliances of the modern world, what sublime conquests are open to the youth of this age!

On September 18th, 1895, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage with Miss Harriett L.

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Carnahan, of Chicago. To them was born one child, Melva Marie, who died in infancy.

"Oh, not in cruelty, not in wrath,
The reaper came that day;
'Twas an angel visited the green earth,
And took the flower away."

Immediately after graduation from the medical college, Mr. Thompson began the practice of medicine in the city of Shelbyville, and today has a very satisfactory and increasing practice. During the year 1898, Dr. Thompson was county physician, which duties he satisfactorily discharged. That he is a progressive and up-to-date man is evidenced by the fact that he is a member of the state, district and national medical societies. Dr. Thompson is regarded by his fellow practitioners and the general public, as a capable physician and a courteous christian gentleman. Politically, the doctor states with some degree of pride, he is of genuine republican stock and has ever voted with that party.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are active members of the Presbyterian church, and are held in loving esteem by the entire community.

* * * *

ABRAM MIDDLESWORTH.

Honored and respected by all, there is not a man in the commercial or financial circles of Shelby county who occupies a more enviable position than Mr. Middlesworth, not alone because of the success he has achieved, but also on account of the honorable, straightforward business policy he has ever followed. He possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception, forms his plans readily, and is determined in their execution, and his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him the high degree of success which today is his.

Mr. Middlesworth is the worthy and efficient president of the First National bank of Shelbyville, a position of trust to which he was elected in 1877, and the duties of which he has performed with signal success and ability.

A native of Fairfield county, Ohio, he was born ten miles southwest of Lancaster, on the 10th of November, 1821. He was the son of Abraham Middlesworth, and the grandson of John and Martha Middlesworth, who came from England sometime during the last century and first located in New Jersey, but afterward removed to Snyder county, Pennsylvania, where Mr. Middlesworth died.

Abraham was born in the Pennsylvania home, and remained in faithful service on his father's farm until he reached his twenty-first year. In that year he shouldered his rifle, and with his entire belongings in a bundle which he carried on his back, he walked the whole distance to Fairfield county, Ohio. Here he entered upon the trade of a cooper, and by steady labor and close economy he was enabled to lay aside a sum of money sufficient to purchase a tract of timber land southwest of Lancaster. Here he married and lived for years in a little log cabin on this property. He carried on quite extensive speculations in land, buying it in its wild state, and after improving it would sell it for a satisfactory advance over the purchase price. It was in the log cabin spoken of above, that Abram, the subject of this review, was born.

In April, 1840, the family left the home in Ohio and came to Shelby county. Mr. Middlesworth riding with his wife in a carriage, while Abram drove a five-horse team, riding one and driving the others with a single line. Here a large tract of land, including the farm then owned by Benjamin Waldron, Sr., was purchased. Two log houses and twenty acres of cleared land were the only improvements, and

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this was known by the name of "Waldron's Big Field." From the time of his entrance into the county, Mr. Middlesworth was closely identified with agricultural improvements of this section, until his death in 1847, leaving a name long to be cherished and remembered by those who knew him. The maiden name of his wife was Barbara Leathers, an estimable lady of German descent.

In the days in which Abram Middlesworth was a boy, the opportunities of receiving an education were very meager indeed, and for only a few months during the winters was he in school. But it is a well known fact that those early days, with a scarcity of schools, and when instruction was given in only the "Three R's" in the schools which did exist, were ever productive of the keenest intellects and brightest minds; and when one knows Mr. Middlesworth, he can readily believe it was not so great an intellectual misfortune after all, to have been a boy in those early days, and also that education cometh not alone from the pages of books and from the school room.

After coming from Ohio to Shelby county in 1840, Abram, with his brother, managed his father's large farm for a number of years. He then received from his father a tract of land in Tower Hill township, upon which he settled after his marriage, which important event occurred on January 28, 1847. He was married to Miss Elizabeth J. T. Goodwin, a maiden of this county, and daughter of James and Sarah (Donnel) Goodwin, who were prominent amongst the early pioneers of Shelby.

Subsequent to the close of the Mexican war, Mr. Middlesworth purchased a great many land grants from returned soldiers, who had received them from the government in payment of their military services. In this way, he acquired about 2,500 acres of land, and still possesses a

goodly portion of it, continuing the management of his fine farms from his city home. During the years he spent upon his farm, he did not confine his attention to purely agricultural pursuits or the accumulation of real estate, but engaged extensively in buying hogs and cattle for the markets of St. Louis and New York City, respectively. In 1870, he took up his residence in Shelbyville. Seven years later, as has been intimated already, he was made president of the First National bank, one of the oldest as well as one of the safest monetary institutions in this section of the country.

Mr. and Mrs. Middlesworth were the parents of thirteen children, seven sons and six daughters, only five of whom are now living. Of those who have passed on before, George, the second son, died in 1867; Frank died in 1884, leaving two beautiful daughters, who now make their home with their aunt, Mrs. H. M. Scarborough, and are attending school; Dexter died in 1888, and the others before their infant lives had blossomed into youth. Of the living, James G. owns a valuable farm two and one-half miles from Shelbyville, and resides upon the same. He was recently bereft of his loved and cherished wife. John W. is also a farmer, though he lives in the city. William S. is the popular assistant cashier of the bank of which his father is president, is married and maintains a comfortable home in Shelbyville. Sarah B. Ward is one of the daughters of Mr. Middlesworth, and the other, Isabelle, is the wife of Col. H. M. Scarborough. After thirty-seven years of conjugal felicity, Mr. Middlesworth was, in February of 1884, bereft of the one who had been the partner of his early hopes and the success of his later years, and who was, with him, held in exceeding high esteem by their wide circle of friends. The sad record made in 1884, was six deaths in the Middlesworth family in eleven months of that

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year. Since the death of his wife, who was a lady of rare sweetness of disposition and beauty of character, Mr. Middlesworth has made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Scarborough.

Politically, Mr. Middlesworth comes from genuine old Whig stock, and has been an ardent Republican since the inception of that party. Since he has attained his majority, he has ever taken a deep interest in all issues placed before the people by the parties, has carefully considered them and always cast his vote and influence upon the side which he deemed right. His republican affiliation is a matter of pride with him.

Since 1877, Mr. Middlesworth has been an active and valued member of the Presbyterian church, and has not been a mere "hearer of the word," but also a "doer of the word," and by his life, has given to the community an example of practical christianity. Prominent among his generous and philanthropic deeds is the donation of his beautiful homestead to the Children's Home and Aid Society, in the early part of the current year. As this gift is spoken of at length under the head of "Institutions," we refrain from adding more about it here.

Mr. Middlesworth is a very sociable, courteous gentleman, one whom it is a pleasure to know. He is nearing the "borderland," and when called upon to pass over will leave a vacant place in the hearts of his friends and in the commercial world which will be difficult to fill.

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WALLACE E. WALKER.

In the annals of Shelby county history, there is, doubtlessly, no man who stands higher in the esteem, or enjoys, to a greater degree, the confidence of his fellows, nor whose genuine worth is more universally appreciated, than Wallace E. Walker. He is one whose pure business prin-

ples, integrity of purpose, and genial, though gentlemanly, bearing have secured for him a status, than which there is a no more enviable one.

On a fertile farm in Rush county, Indiana, Mr. Walker was born, on July 14, 1845. He was the youngest child of Alexander and Melinda Walker, who, some years since, laid them down in their last sleep. The maiden name of Mrs. Walker, whose death occurred in 1869, was Melinda Cann. Mr. Walker was, for many years, recognized as one of the substantial farmers of Rush county, afterward enjoying the same distinction in Shelby county, to which he removed in April of 1851, and where his demise occurred thirty-two years later. Two other children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Walker; the first being a daughter, born in 1828, who, in 1844, was married to William B. Laughlin, and now resides in Sullivan, Illinois, where Mr. Laughlin died about twelve years ago. The other was a son, born in 1829, and who died when twenty-three years of age in Shelbyville, where he was at the time engaged in the study of law.

Wallace E. received his schooling in the home district, in Windsor township, a mile and a half north of the village of that name. As he became of sufficient age and stature, he followed agricultural pursuits, and continued in the same until the fall of 1886, when he received very positive evidence of the confidence reposed in him by the citizens of Shelby, in being elected as treasurer of the county, a confidence further substantiated by the honor again being conferred in the election of 1894, after an interim of four years; during which intervening time, he engaged in the business of buying and selling stock, and also assisted his successor in the treasurer's office. Prior to his election to the treasury, Mr. Walker had served the township of Windsor as

DR. WILLIAM J. EDDY.



WALLACE E. WALKER.



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supervisor for four years, and had also been clerk of the township for a number of years. Early in life, he had inculcated in him the principles of Democracy, and with that party he has always affiliated.

Perhaps the most important and pleasing experience of Mr. Walker's life came to him in 1870, in his marriage to Miss Nancy J. Wallace, on the 28th of April of that year. Miss Wallace was also a resident of Windsor township, being the daughter of Samuel and Eliza J. Wallace, near neighbors of the Walker family. She was a lady of culture and refinement, and of charming disposition, and it was with considerable self-congratulation that Mr. Walker led her to the altar.

To Mr. and Mrs. Walker have been born four children, who are still with their parents, the family circle never having been interrupted by marriage or death.

Ora W. was born in 1871, on the 2nd day of June, and has been cashier of the Shelby County State bank since its inception; Lella was born in October of 1873, and is held in tender regard by those who know her well, being a young lady of rare accomplishments and gentle graces, adding lustre, as well as pleasure, to the home or any social function; Charles Earl was born July 2nd, 1878, and is now associated in business with his father; Harry is a bright boy of sixteen years, and is still in High school. Altogether, the family is one of high moral character and sterling qualities, and all are devoted to one another with an intensity not seen in every household.

Upon the expiration of Mr. Walker's second term as County Treasurer, he established himself in an office on Main street, from which he attends to his real estate and stock trading, and is considered one of the most public-spirited and enterprising citizens of Shelbyville today.

W. E. HICKMAN.

J. B. and Hannah (Thornton) Hickman, were the parents of eight children, seven of whom are still living. Ellen died when but in the flower of young womanhood. Ann became the wife of Mr. George Dial, and with her husband makes her home in El Paso, in the northern part of Illinois. The other six children still reside in Shelby, the county of their nativity. Thomas and Elizabeth are unmarried and make their homes together. Mary and Margaret are now Mesdames Joseph Kensil and Walter Carr, respectively, and live upon farms; whilst John having taken a wife, Miss Margaret Dial, is associated with his brother, W. E., in the mercantile business. Mr. Hickman was a native of Kentucky, and came to this county at an early day. Mrs. Hickman was originally from the state of Georgia. William, the eldest child in the family, was born in Shelbyville township, on the 10th day of December, 1860. His educational privileges were limited to those afforded by a district school, and even these were curtailed for him by the early death of his father. Much of the responsibility of carrying on a farm devolved upon him when but a mere youth. This, of course, developed the promising, though untried, boy into manly independence. The rightful service of his youth, he rendered to his widowed mother, and, not until his majority was reached, did he leave home.

When twenty-one years of age, Mr. Hickman was united in marriage to Miss Ellen, the charming daughter of J. W. and Martha (White) Pritchard, residents of Shelbyville. Immediately after his marriage, he rented a farm where the village of Clarksburg now stands, and during a period of thirteen years continued to work the same.

In the year 1894, Mr. Hickman purchased

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from the "Thornton assignees" a tract of land in Holland township. For a little more than two years he lived upon and worked this land, at the end of which time he moved into the village of Clarksburg and opened a store of general merchandise, which business he still conducts.

Mr. and Mrs. Hickman are the parents of three children, Malvoicine C., Waneta, and Dove D. The hand of death has never yet saddened their home; neither has the time yet come for family separation, the children all being under the parental roof.

In connection with his mercantile pursuits, Mr. Hickman for a time engaged in the handling of hay and grain. This he did from an independent standpoint. At length, however, he became the recognized agent of the Sidell Grain and Elevator Co., and upon the organization of the Clarksburg Hay Co., became a member and was made manager of the same. In these capacities his dealings in produce are still continued.

The esteem in which Mr. Hickman is held may be inferred from the fact that he has been township supervisor and collector for two terms, justice of the peace for one term and post master since the office was first opened. He has been a democrat all his life, and takes no small interest in political matters. Mr. Hickman is a member of the lodge of "Modern Woodmen" and is clerk of the camp. Both himself and wife are members of the "Court of Honor," and best of all, according to his own words, "Members of the Methodist Episcopal church."

The store in which Mr. Hickman conducts his business is a large and well-kept one. The stock is extensive and well selected. Customers receive prompt and courteous treatment; and, we do not hesitate to predict, for one who has achieved so much and is still but forty years of age, the final setting of life's sun upon a course of eminent success and accomplishment.

HORACE L. MARTIN.

On the eleventh of July, 1836, in the village of Jersey, Licking county, Ohio, was born the subject of this biography, Horace L. Martin. His father was Mark D. Martin, a worthy representative of the art of Vulcan, and is now a resident of Terre Haute, Indiana, spending his declining years in that city. He is in his eighty-seventh year. The wife of Mr. Martin was Julia A. Ward, who died in 1846. The birth place of both of these was New Jersey.

Horace received his instruction in the common branches of education, in the common schools of Jersey, but was afterwards a student in Central college, a seminary of Franklin county, Ohio. He entered this college in 1850, and remained there in close application to his studies for a period of five years, when he was graduated. In September of 1855, he found his way to Shelbyville, where an uncle was established in the drug business and with whom Horace engaged as clerk, and also began the study of medicine, remaining there until the fall of '57, when he entered the employ of Webster & Jagger, as a dry goods' clerk. Soon, however, he returned to Ohio, where he spent the winter and spring of 1857—58, in attendance upon the lectures in the Sterling Medical school, of Columbus. Afterwards, he went to Granville, O., where he spent one term of six months in studying the Water Cure, in an institution there. Returning to Shelbyville, in July, of 1858, Mr. Martin began the practice of medicine, with his uncle, but there being some features of the profession which were distasteful to him, he soon afterwards again entered upon a mercantile career, engaging for the second time with the firm of Webster & Jagger, with whom he remained as clerk until the year of 1861. He then became a member of the firm of S. H. Webster & Co.,

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under which firm name they conducted a general merchandise store for nearly a dozen years.

In August of 1872, he began his journalistic career, by purchasing an interest in *The Union*, with his brothers, Park T. and Elgin. In the same year they established *The Republican*, in Effingham, Elgin H. going there as manager of the same. This paper, however, was soon sold to Henry Painter, and *The Union* engaged their whole attention. In the following year, Horace Martin became the sole proprietor of this paper and plant, and has so continued until the present. He has put a good deal of earnest toil into his effort to make *The Union* one of the leading papers of the county, and the paper, itself, speaks of his success along that line. It was the only Republican paper in the county for many years. In 1888, Mr. Martin deemed it expedient to establish a daily paper, which he did, continuing it under the name of *The Daily Union*, which has proven to be a pronounced success.

The domestic life of Mr. Martin has ever been congenial and happy, he having married the lady of his choice, on Independence Day, 1859. This was Miss Mary A., daughter of Elmus H. and Hannah (Noah) Jagger, who have now been dead for some years. Miss Jagger was born in Summit county, Ohio, July 23, 1840, though a resident of Shelbyville from 1856. This union has been blessed by the birth of six children. The first of these was Julia, born in May, 1860, who died October 9, 1862, and the rest as follows: Edward, born October 17, 1861, died October 30, 1862; Homer, born August 21, 1863, died October 1, 1863; Henry Mellville, born September 5, 1864, died October 8, 1866; Etta, born May 26, 1867, and was first married to John E. Downs, in 1886, but is now the wife of J. F. Renshaw, having been united in this marriage on January 6, 1894. To the first union was born one daughter, Ferna Estelle, who has

ever made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Martin; and to the second union, one child, who died in infancy. The last birth to be recorded is that of Lucy, who was born September 12, 1869, and is still in the parental home.

The living members of the family are members of the Presbyterian church, and Mr. Martin is one of the elders of the same. In 1882, Mr. Martin was elected secretary of the Laborers' Loan Association, a position he has acceptably filled, and still occupies. He has never been a candidate for any public office, and consequently, in these days when an office-seeker has to "blow his own horn" to a considerable extent, he has never received any public office in political affairs. Still he has ever upheld the principles of the party to which he belongs, and is considered a stable, successful business man, whose character is above reproach.

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PHILO PARKER.

One of the most prominent and best known citizens of Shelby county, is the President of the Shelby County State Bank, Philo Parker. For forty-five years he has been closely associated with the business interests of the county, and has been ever ready to aid materially in the development of the same.

Mr. Parker was born on a farm in Saratoga county, New York, on the 8th day of May, 1830. His father, Samuel Parker, was one of the prosperous farmers of that part of the state, a man highly respected by those who knew him. He died in 1863. Mrs. Parker, whose maiden name was Mary Du Bois, died in the year 1848, when the son, Philo, was but eighteen years of age. In youth, Mr. Parker received a good common school education in the schools of his native district and in Ballston and Syracuse. When 20

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years old, he went to Savannah, Ga., where he spent several years. In 1855, he made his first appearance in Shelbyville, when he engaged as foreman with C. C. Scovil in the milling and lumber business, which position he held until the fall of 1856. At this time a partnership was entered into by the former owner and himself, which existed for about two years. Then Mr. Parker became sole proprietor of the enterprise and continued the business for thirteen years. In the lumber business, he was quite successful from a financial standpoint, and this can be said with equal truth of all other business engagements entered into by the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Parker established the first exclusive boot and shoe store in Shelbyville, and after a time sold it to F. Clements, subsequently buying out the general merchandise stock of Capt. Espey. Upon the death of C. C. Scovil, his former partner in business, he was appointed one of the administrators of the estate, which was a very large one, and in the settling of which he was actively engaged for some time. It was largely due to his wise management of the affairs that after all claims against the estate had been met, there was quite a surplus left. This was contrary to the expectations of many who were familiar with the condition of the estate, as they thought the liabilities would exceed the assets.

Mr. Parker was one of the organizers and a charter member of the First National Bank of Shelbyville, which was instituted in the fall of 1873. He was the first to be elected to the vice-presidency of the bank, a position which he held for fourteen years, when he resigned because of ill-health and was not actively engaged in business for himself for several years.

Upon the failure of the Thomas M. Thornton bank, Mr. Parker was appointed one of the assignees, and was engaged for a year and a half

in settling up the affairs of the bank. In March of 1895, he assisted in the organization of the Shelby County State bank, which was opened for business in May of that year. Mr. Parker was elected the first president of the bank and has held the office to the present time, and has been instrumental in placing the bank upon a firm financial basis and amongst the foremost of the monetary institutions of the county.

In April of 1856, Mr. Parker was united in marriage to Miss Demma Parish, a young lady whose birthplace and home was Shelbyville, and who still lives to enjoy the beautiful home-life with her husband. But one child was born to Mr. and Mrs. Parker, a daughter, Mollie, who is now the wife of J. B. Isenberg, a prosperous merchant of Shelbyville.

From youth, Mr. Parker was religiously inclined and has been for many years a prominent member of the First M. E. church, and has for some time been president of the Board of Trustees of the same.

While still a young lad, Mr. Parker took a personal pledge in accordance with the sentiment of which he has ever been a total abstainer from all liquors, and has never used tobacco in any form.

In politics he is an ardent Republican, and is a believer in the principle that all good men should take an active interest in politics, thereby making it hard for the demagogue and political trickster to prevail.

It is ever a pleasure to note the degree of prominence attained by those men who have fought life's battle alone and against great odds, and the career of Mr. Parker is an illustration of what may be achieved by strict adherence to right principles, by buoyant courage and indomitable purpose.

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ALBERT ALLEN.

A biographical album containing the names of the "prominent men" of Shelby county, would be decidedly incomplete were not the name of Albert Allen, County Clerk, amongst them. There is no more familiar figure, no more prominent nor popular official in the court house, than he; and it is with pleasure we attempt a brief resume of his useful and eventful life.

Mr. Allen was born on a farm in Putnam county, Indiana, October 10, 1839. The first twenty years of his life were spent in the toils of farm life, and in attendance upon the common schools of the neighborhood, in which he received his education. On the first of January, 1860, he left the parental home and entered the county clerk's office, at Greencastle, Ind., where he remained until August of 1862. It was then he enlisted in the 18th Indiana Light Artillery, and faithfully served "Uncle Sam" throughout the Rebellion, receiving an honorable discharge on the 30th of June, 1865. Mr. Allen was with the famous "Wilder Lightning Brigade" throughout the service, and bears the remarkable record of never having missed a day from duty, through sickness, furlough, or whatever cause.

On September 17, 1861, Mr. Allen was married to Miss Amy E. Robinson, at Greencastle, Indiana, that city being the place of her birth in 1839. She was the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Robinson, prominent residents of that place. To Mr. and Mrs. Allen was born one child, Edward, March 16, 1866. He is now a popular member of Shelbyville society, and is associated with his father, as deputy, in the clerk's office.

Mr. Allen, with his family, came to Shelbyville in April, 1872, and on the first of September, 1873, entered the county clerk's office, under

J. William Lloyd. He served as deputy clerk under Mr. Lloyd until December 1st, 1877, and continued as deputy for J. E. Frazier, who then became clerk, until 1882. For the succeeding two years he was employed by Cochran & Lloyd, abstracters; then by Graybill & Company, real estate dealers, until December 1, 1886, when he re-entered the office of county clerk, as deputy for A. F. Allen, whom he served until December 1, 1894, but continued under I. R. Small, until February 1, 1896, when he retired.

Mr. Allen has been a life-long Democrat, and recognizing his capability and merit, his party gave him a sufficient number of votes in the election of 1898, to elect him to the office of County Clerk, which position he is now holding to the eminent satisfaction of his constituents. Mr. Allen has spent about twenty-three years of his life in discharging the duties of a county clerk's office, and is therefore one of the most capable members of that office the county has ever had.

The home life of Mr. Allen and his family is happy and pleasant, and they have a wide circle of friends in Shelby. We are pleased to be able to produce a portrait of Mr. Allen for the pages of this volume.

* * * *

ROBERT MARSHALL ROOT.

"So nigh is grandeur to our dust,
So near is God to man,
When duty whispers low, 'Thou must,'
The youth replies, 'I can.'"

Birds of short life and feeble flight are reared in warm, soft nests, amid green leaves, golden tassels, and the perfume of flowers. Not thus are eagles reared. Their cradle is an open shelf; their nest a few rough sticks spread on

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the bare rock, where they are exposed to the rain and the blast which howls through the glen. Such is the nursing of the bird that afterwards soars in sunny skies, and with strong wings cleaves the clouds and rises upon the storms. Even so God often nurses amid difficulties and hardships those who are destined to rise, by a ladder whose rounds are not smooth, to prominence on earth.

Robert Marshall Root, the subject of this review, is one of the men who have achieved a fair measure of success under more than ordinary difficulties, and he has but proved the force of the truism, that difficulties are but tests to increase our faith and earnestness. Born into a home in which there were but few of the luxuries of life, and where unremitting labor upon the part of the father was necessary to provide the needs and comforts, Mr. Root has learned something of what struggles and obstacles mean; and was early convinced that if victory were indeed achieved, it must be at the expense of hard and persistent toil, of repeated and continued encounter with opposing forces. But, undaunted by this conviction, it has rather served to make his life the more significant and the higher in inspiration.

The place of Mr. Root's nativity was Shelbyville, he being born here on the 20th day of March, 1863. He was the third and youngest son of John and Eunice Root, both natives of the "Green Mountain State." The maiden name of the mother was Eunice Cook, daughter of Robert and Pearl Cook, who lived and died in Vermont. The parents of Robert Root were married while still in their native state, but afterwards spent a couple of years in Plattsburg, New York, coming from thence to Shelbyville about forty-seven years ago. After the birth of Robert, the family circle remained unbroken until the death of Mr. Root, in 1879. The elder

son, Charles B., born in Vermont in 1851, died July 27, 1898. His home was in Mattoon, Illinois, where he had been for some time a manager for a dealer in hay. John G., the second son, born in New York, in 1854, still lives in Shelbyville, where he, too, is engaged in the hay business, being a member of the firm of Westervelt & Root.

Robert received instruction in the ordinary branches of education, in the common and high schools of Shelbyville. While still a boy, he recognized within himself the inherent talents of an artist, and for the purpose of developing these qualities, he entered the School of Fine Arts of Washington University, at St. Louis, where he spent the years 1888, 1889 and 1890. He applied himself to study and work with so much diligence that he made exceptionally rapid progress, and won for himself the plaudits of his associates and fellow-students, and the approbation of his tutors. By marked ability in the execution of some fine works of art he won the full list of prizes offered by the school; and received scholarships for three consecutive years. So great was the esteem in which he was held, and so manifestly earnest had been his efforts to excel, that at the commencement exercises at the close of his third year in St. Louis, the director of the school publicly announced his regret that they were unable to confer upon Mr. Root a foreign scholarship, of which he was so justly deserving. On the strength of these warm words of praise from such an influential source, Mr. Root was enabled to make arrangements to spend a couple of years in the study of art in Paris, which he did in 1891 and 1892. His tutors there, were the celebrated Benjamin Constant and Jules Lefabvre. They took such an unusual interest in this American pupil, that he found it possible to crowd into his two years of Parisian study, more than the ordinary amount



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of endeavor and achievement. While there, in 1892, he exhibited one of his paintings in the French Salon, where the mere acceptance of a painting, by the jurors selected to pass upon the merits of all works of art presented for exhibition, is indeed a great honor.'

Returning to Shelbyville, where Mr. Root still resides with his loved mother, he opened a studio, and has since applied himself closely to his profession, meeting with flattering success. It is not easy for a young artist to secure custom as a rule, but the innate merit of the productions of Mr. Root, was so apparent that he has enjoyed to an unusual degree the commendation and confidence of lovers of art who have seen his work as it has been exhibited in the principal art museums throughout the country, he being an annual exhibitor in six of the largest western cities. In fact, his work has gone as far east as Connecticut. He has recently made several very satisfactory sales to prominent people, amongst whom is Rev. Frank Bristol, the pastor of President McKinley.

Amongst other commissions received by Mr. Root, was that of painting a life-size portrait of the son of the Honorable Mr. Rutherford, of Oakland, a life-long friend of our own Judge Moulton; also a portrait of the son of Cicero Lindley, Chairman of the State committee of Grain Inspectors. This one, for a time, occupied a place on the walls of the capitol at Springfield. The most prominent of his work, perhaps, are the magnificent life-size and life-like portraits of Judge Thornton and Judge Moulton, which adorn the wall of the court room in Shelbyville. Another, worthy of particular mention, is the decorative painting, an allegorical treatment of the Holy Scriptures, in the auditorium of the First M. E. church. Truly it is a beautiful thing, charming the eye with its hallowed perfectness.

Mr. Root is still a young man, just in the

prime of life. He is wedded—but to his art. He merits and has the respect and esteem of his wide circle of warm friends. The vistas of the future are before him, and we predict for him added success and wonderful achievements in the world of art, in which he already enjoys an enviable reputation.

* * * *

MICHAEL FREYBURGER.

In Schwetzingen, near Heidelberg, Germany, Michael Freyburger, third child of John P. and Johanna Freyburger, was born on the 23rd day of February, A. D. 1820. Mr. Freyburger, Sr., was a native of that part of Germany now known as Rhenish Bavaria, but which was a French possession until Napoleon's great defeat, after which it was ceded to the German Empire. Mr. Freyburger was an officer in Napoleon's army, receiving his discharge from service shortly before the battle of Waterloo. In 1831, he came with his family to Eden township, Erie county, New York. Here he lived for a period of three years, engaged in agricultural pursuits. He then started for the west; driving through with the customary outfit of a "home-seeker." While yet in the east central part of Ohio, he was taken suddenly ill, and died after a brief interval. The widow purchased a farm near Columbus, where she lived for about one year, after which she sold the same, and drove with her family to Okaw township, Shelby Co., Illinois. Michael, of whom we write, is the only living member of this family; Charlotte, Wilhelmina and William all being dead. Mrs. Freyburger, the faithful and devoted mother, died in the year 1869.

The only educational advantages enjoyed by Mr. Freyburger were furnished by the common schools in his native province. We can best

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judge of the meagreness of these, when we consider that he left that land when but eleven years of age. Throughout his long life, Mr. Freyburger has confined his efforts to farming; in this honorable and primary industry, he came to rank among the best. Mr. Freyburger remembers the earliest days of Shelby county. The first M. E. church, Shelbyville, was the only church edifice in the county, when he first came within its bounds. The city of Shelbyville had a population of about 300 souls. There were two saw mills in the county at the time, located on the Okaw, one of which was owned and managed by a man by the name of Francisco. These saw mills belong to the family known in history as "The Up and Down" kind. He carried grain to a mill about three miles beyond Springfield. Wheat was marketed in St. Louis, being sold for "three bits," thirty-six cents per bushel. Family supplies were hauled from that distant point.

In the year 1843, Mr. Freyburger was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Johnson, a step-daughter of B. W. Henry, who was among the pioneer preachers of this county. To them were born eight children, only three of whom are still living. Annie and Laura died in their infancy and Theophilus, Charles, Kossuth and Edward in youth or young manhood. Mary is in charge of the household affairs at her father's home in Shelbyville. John invests largely in live stock and is doubtless the leading shipper in the county; he too, resides with his father. William is engaged in business in Ellensburg, Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. Freyburger began their married life upon a farm in Okaw township, which he still owns. In the year 1849, he with a party of seven others, started overland for the gold fields of California. The journey was begun with an ox team, but when St. Joseph was reached the oxen were traded for mules. At this stage of their journey, their party was increased by the

accession of three new members. They started from St. Joseph on the 7th day of May and arrived in the mining regions of California on the 5th day of August. The trip and the return was performed without serious accident or misfortune. Mr. Freyburger returned to this county in October, 1851. He was somewhat financially profited by his mining experience.

In September, 1861, Michael Freyburger was mustered into service to fight in the great war of the Rebellion, as a member of the 7th Illinois Cavalry, Co. 11, and not until the close of the war in 1865, was he mustered out. He participated in a great number of skirmishes, and was in the two days' battle at Nashville, the battle of Port Hudson, and the battle of Corinth. When his regiment was engaged in the battle of Franklin, Mr. Freyburger was absent; having been sent as the bearer of important dispatches. Nearly all of his military services were performed under Gen. Grierson, and Gen. Hatch. Mr. Freyburger accompanied the troops on that famous expedition known as Grierson's raid. He enlisted for service as a private, but was mustered out as a Lieutenant. By one of his comrades, he has been styled, "the handsomest soldier in his company." He is now one of the oldest members of Shelby County G. A. R. Shortly after the war, viz: in A. D. 1870, Mr. Freyburger laid the mortal remains of his wife to their rest in the grave.

In his twenty-first year, Mr. Freyburger united with the Christian church, of which organization he still remains an active and devoted member. He is a man concerning whom all speak well. His life has been long and successful; and now, as life's sun is setting, its rays fall upon a peaceful evening scene. The crowning virtue and glory of old age is an adornment of the christian graces. Those who live with life's great end in view never outlive their usefulness.

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Their closing days suggest a going up into the mount of vision, rather than a decline into the vale of death. Their end is peace.

* * * *

CONN BROTHERS.

Our biographical album could not be considered complete, did it not have upon its pages a pen-sketch of the men whose names head this paragraph.

The Conn Brothers—Stanley and John—now living in Shelbyville, are of English descent, having been born in Canaan, Canada East. On their mother's side they are connected with the line of Stanley's for whom the elder was named. These Stanleys were a line of English statesmen, who held office continually under the government, for a period of 700 years—a record scarcely equalled by any other family. The father was a teacher. In 1817, he opened a private school in Montreal; a modest little card informing the public that he was "prepared to teach the following branches at the following prices:

"Reading, 5s per quarter; English grammar and Elocution, Geography, History, (Ancient and Modern) Writing and Arithmetic, 8s 4d per quarter; Stenography on the most approved plan, 1pd 2s 9d per quarter; Algebra, Geometry with its application to Trigonometry, Mensuration, Surveying, Navigation, Dialing, etc., 1pd 2s 9d per quarter. He will also teach in the evenings; Natural and Experimental Philosophy, explaining in an easy and familiar manner, the Laws of Matter and Motion, Mechanical Powers, Specific Gravities, Optics, the Theory of Astronomy, Electricity etc., 1pd 1s 9d." This was before the day of the specialist.

Besides these two brothers—Stanley and John—there were five sons and three daughters,

all having lived to maturity. The early years of the family were spent on a farm, three and one-half miles out from Granby, Can. During the summer they followed the ordinary agricultural pursuits, while their winters were spent in the lumber camps, felling trees, with the snow from three and one-half to four feet deep. The cold was so intense that often, for three months at a time, the St. Lawrence river was frozen so solidly that teams could cross upon the ice. In the spring, before the snow had melted, sugar camps were opened, where sugar for the entire family for the following year, was made. In addition to all this, the children found time to attend the Government school, though they received the greater part of their instruction in mathematics from their father.

The region round about their Canadian home being too woody for good farm land, the family came to the United States in the year 1855, for the purpose of securing good land, free from timber; a part of the family going in the spring, the rest following in September. The journey from Montreal to Chicago was made by water and rail; up the St. Lawrence river, through Lake Ontario, to Niagara Falls, where a short stop was made for the purpose of sightseeing; down through Lake Erie to Toledo, and from thence to Chicago by rail. Stopping in Chicago but a short time, the journey was resumed to Dubuque, Iowa, and from thence to Rockville, thirty miles out.

Before the Conns had left Montreal, the English had taken Sebastopol, and great excitement prevailed. A little incident served to impress this fact upon the minds of the two brothers. Just as they were about to embark upon the steamer an Irishman came running up, waving his arms frantically. "Sebastopol has been taken," he cried, "and the Irishmen done it." Then, quick as a flash, seeing the sensation pro-

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duced, he held out his hand, saying, "Give a poor Irishman a penny."

Arriving at Rockville, the first concern was to procure a home. This was soon done for the parents, but the boys went further west, to Butler county, one hundred thirty miles from Dubuque. After selecting their land, their chief object was to get back to Dubuque on the day the Land Office opened, to enter their land before any one could anticipate them. It being late in November, and the roads heavy from recent rains, Stanley and two of his brothers-in-law, leaving their team, walked seventy miles without resting, making the distance in a single day and night, through the snow, for the last thirty miles, was a half foot deep. They reached Dubuque in safety, and were the first to present themselves at the Land Office the day it opened. That winter the family spent at Rockville. In the spring, the sons returned to their claims, to improve the land and build homes—all except the two sons.

Stanley, after building a home for his parents, went to work in a saw mill near by, spending the summer there and contracting a severe case of malaria fever. After recovering from his illness, he went to work for a man named George Ensign, in New Hartford, where they ran a shingle machine, besides building many houses. From thence he went to work on the immense farm owned by the Ohio Stock company, in Butler county, Iowa.

John returned to Dubuque, and, entering the machine shops, studied the art of engineering. Here he remained a year or more, and then went to Cedar Falls, where he spent a couple of years operating a mill. Stanley remained full two years on the stock farm, doing all the building required on the place, as he had previously acquired a good knowledge of the carpenter's trade, even before he left Canada. This

stock farm consisted of 10,000 acres, owned by a company of six men, Dr. Sprague being the president of the company. When not engaged in building, Stanley had the oversight of the different farming departments, thus acquiring a knowledge of agriculture difficult to obtain on a smaller farm. Especially did he become an expert in matters pertaining to stock, as on this farm they had the best that Ohio and Kentucky could produce. However, the country round about being new, there was little demand for such fine stock as this farm produced, hence the enterprise proved a failure, financially, the stock was sold, and the land divided amongst the company.

In 1859, Stanley and John went to Columbia, Mo., then the "Athens of the West." The first thing they did here was to build a house for one Jerry Dorsey, and other employment followed. For two years they stayed here, when, in 1861, they went to Carleton, Mo. The Civil war breaking out about this time, put an end to their trade, as the country was torn from one end to the other, and there was little call for employment of any kind. They then rented the Banks farm, in the "Charleton Bottoms," fourteen miles from town. This was a farm of 480 acres. The first year they raised one hundred acres of hemp, and corn without end. Two years were spent here on the farm, but the war becoming more threatening, they were forced to sell and go to St. Louis. After spending some time there, they came to Shelbyville, in 1864. About their first employment here was upon the block of business houses now occupied by Pogue, Scarborough, Pollard and Kensil Brothers. In March of the following year, they opened their lumber yard, under the firm name of Johnson & Conn Brothers. John has remained in close application to this business from that time to the present, but Stanley still followed the building



PROF. J. E. CLAVADETSCHER.

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trade in and around Shelbyville. In the fall of that year Underwood and Conn built the Sullivan court house, and a home for Judge Elder, of that place. In the spring of 1866, Stanley went to California, Missouri, to build a court house. The work was to be completed in eighteen months from date of contract, but it was completed in every detail, and court was in session in exactly eleven months' time.

In September of 1868, Stanley married Miss Mary E. Stillwell, and in the following November, John married Alzenith P. Stillwell. In 1869 the Conn Brothers took the contract for the erection of the public school building on Main street. Work was begun in April of the next year, and the building was completed by Christmas, so that it was ready for occupancy by the first of the year. In '71 they built the West Side school in Mattoon; in '72 they built the Supreme Court House in Mt. Vernon, Illinois. They had prepared for the erection of the buildings for the School of Minds, at Rollo, Mo., the building to have cost \$100,000; but for lack of funds the project had to be abandoned. Later, they established a lumber yard in Sullivan, which they conducted for seven or eight years, and also one in Cowden, for five or six years. In 1876 the Conns bought out Johnson's interest in the yard at Shelbyville and also sold out in Sullivan and Cowden. In 1880 to '81 the county employed Stanley to superintend the erection of our Court House. This is the last large building in the erection of which they were concerned. Since that time, they have devoted themselves exclusively to the lumber and hardware trade.

The brothers both joined the Methodist church in Rockville, in 1856, and since that time have been closely identified with the church. Stanley has taught in, or attended the Sabbath school every Sunday since 1874, with the exception of three, when he was unavoidably absent

from town. Both boys received the priceless heritage of a good constitution, Stanley never having been absent from business on account of sickness since 1856, a period of forty-four years. John has given close attention to the business in Shelbyville, ever since 1866. The brothers reside in Shelbyville, having lived since their marriage on adjoining lots.

To Mr. and Mrs. John Conn have been born three daughters, one of whom has "passed on before," and one is the wife of Dr. Mizell, of Shelbyville. One son and three daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Conn, all of whom are living and are still in the home, with the exception of one who is the wife of Emra Bolinger, of this city.

These families occupy an honored position in Shelbyville society, and are prominent members of church and social circles. The business methods of the brothers are above adverse criticism, and they enjoy the confidence of the business men of Shelbyville, as well as that of their customers.

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J. E. CLAVADETSCHER.

Opportunities come to all. The days of every life are full of them. But the trouble with too many of us is that we do not make anything out of them while we have them. The next moment they are gone. One man goes through life sighing for opportunities. If only he had this or that gift, or place, or position, he would do great things, he says; but with his means, his poor chances, his meagre privileges, his uncongenial surroundings, his limitations, he can do nothing worthy of himself. Then another man comes up close beside him, with like means, chances, circumstances, privileges, and he achieves noble re-

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sults, does heroic things, wins for himself honor or renown. The secret is in the man, not in his environment.

To this class of men, who lay hold upon the opportunities as they pass, and improve them, belongs Professor J. E. Clavadetscher, a talented young musician, prominent in Shelbyville society. He was born on the 20th of August, 1872, in Davos, Ct. des Grisons, Switzerland, and is one of the three children born to the parents, Andreas and Marie (Michal) Clavadetscher. Of the others, the sister received the mother's name, Marie, is married to a Mr. Huegly, and still resides in the town where she was born; the brother, who bears the name of his father, Andreas, is the youngest of the trio, and is now attending college in Switzerland. Mrs. Clavadetscher died in 1890. Mr. Clavadetscher, who was in the hotel business nearly all of his lifetime, and was also a noted musician, lived until February of 1899.

When but twelve years of age, the subject of this biography left home and entered school in Chur, Ecole Cantonal, where he pursued the common branches of study, besides undergoing a thorough course of instruction in the Latin, German and French languages, and in music, a love and talent for which was inherent in his nature. While in this school, he was under the tutorship of Profs. Friech, a Bohemian, and Bauer, German, who instructed him on the violin; Prof. Dietz, who trained his vocal powers, thus rendering him a capable conductor of choirs and harmony; and Prof. Radezky, a Russian, who taught him in the music of the 'cello. Under these competent teachers, Mr. Clavadetscher was an apt pupil, and early gave substantial evidence of his remarkable musical talent. He remained in this school at Chur for four years, and while there served as military cadet.

From Chur, Mr. Clavadetscher went to

Zurich, Switzerland, where he took a course in business training, and also continued his musical studies. Here he remained until the death of his mother, in 1890, when he returned home for a short time, soon afterward leaving for America. He spent some time with an uncle in St. Louis, afterward going to Belleville, Illinois, where he engaged in the painting business. Soon, however, he removed to Highland, Illinois, and for five years engaged in teaching that, in the study of which he had labored faithfully and persistently—music and the languages. He then took up his abode in Greenville, where he continued his teaching, and also secured employment in a banner and regalia factory. Prof. Clavadetscher considers his great musical success in Greenville to have been the organizing and training of a Ladies' Orchestra. Of him the Greenville Advocate has this to say:

"Prof. E. Clavadetscher was a resident of Greenville for nearly two years, and during that time his services and talent as a thorough musician made him a central figure, not only here, but in the counties adjoining Bond. He has organized and trained an orchestra composed entirely of ladies, whose fame and reputation as a fine musical organization is recognized far and wide. As a violinist, he has delighted some of the most critical musicians in Greenville and surrounding cities. His performance on the 'cello has never been equaled here." This is high praise and commendation, but is no more than the just due of this already celebrated musician. While in Greenville he engaged to a limited extent in concert business, as 'cellist; but Mr. Clavadetscher has no inclination to use his musical gifts in that sphere, so has entirely abandoned the concert field, and devotes his entire time to other avenues of musical exhibition and teaching.

In August, 1898, Mr. Clavadetscher came to Lithia Springs, as a member of the orchestra at

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the Chautauqua. Becoming acquainted with many of Shelbyville's music-loving people, and himself falling desperately in love with—Shelbyville, after but a few weeks return to Greenville, he concluded his engagements there and came again to this city, where he has since resided, engaging, from the first, in the teaching of music, and German and French languages. In the fall of '99, Mr. Clavadetscher spent some weeks in Chicago, a violin student of Beresino, Concert Master, Chicago Orchestra. He also took 'cello with Ambrosius, 'cello soloist with Thomas Orchestra. It is the purpose of the Professor to go to Chicago in February, to spend several weeks in study, thus showing his determination to keep in touch with the very latest and best in his profession, and give to his pupils the benefit.

After engaging for a year with I. M. Douthit, Prof. Clavadetscher formed a partnership with this gentleman, in September of this year, and together they conduct an extensive and lucrative business in the sale of musical goods and instruments, under the firm name of Douthit & Clavadetscher. Mr. Clavadetscher himself, has a cozy and comfortable studio on the second floor of the building used by the firm.

Professor Clavadetscher has just cause to be proud of the success he achieved in organizing and training the Children's Sunday School Orchestra, of the Presbyterian church, which added so much to the pleasure and entertainment of the attendants at that service. It has ever been pleasing to this gifted artist, to assist the church in its musical service, rather than favor those who are not so deserving. He, himself, is a member of the German Reformed church, though is not bigoted or narrow in his denominationalism.

Prof. Clavadetscher is one with whom it is a pleasure to have acquaintance, a splendid conversationalist, and a courteous gentleman who is a welcomed addition to the very best society

of Shelbyville. He has asked us to express, in this sketch, his appreciation of the kindly courtesies received since his advent in the city, and says that in all his sojournings he has not found as homelike and agreeable a place as Shelbyville. Amongst his many friends here, he keenly appreciates the intimate association of Prof. Taylor, director of Lithia Springs Orchestra, and Robert Root, the artist. These, indeed, complete a very congenial trio.

For Prof. Clavadetscher, a future of great prominence would be the natural sequence of present attainments, and his very many friends will follow his career with interest.

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MAX KLEEMAN.

In Werneck, Bavaria, Germany, Max Kleeman was born in the year 1837. His parents were Susman and Fanny Kleeman, the maiden name of the latter being Fanny Mayer. His father was proprietor of a large farm, and carried on quite extensive operations in cattle buying, as well. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kleeman: Isaac, now aged sixty-seven years, and who still resides in Germany; William, now aged sixty-five years, who is a resident of Tennessee; and Max, the subject of this biography. Mr. Kleeman died in 1849, and about four years later Mrs. Kleeman also passed away. Almost immediately after the death of his mother, Max Kleeman, then but sixteen years old, left Germany and came to America, spending his first year in this country in New York City. In the following year, 1854, he went to Ohio and was engaged there for two years in the jewelry and clothing business. He was in Columbus when the first theatre was built in the city.

"Westward the star of Empire takes its

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way," and with it, in 1856, Mr. Kleeman went as far as Iowa, where he located in the city of Des Moines and was engaged in mercantile pursuits for the succeeding three years. It was while he was there that the first Capitol building of Iowa was erected. Three years later, Mr. Kleeman removed from Des Moines to Shelby county. Locating in Shelbyville, he opened a clothing store in the building in which Mrs. Oliver now conducts her millinery business. This building has the distinction of being the only one now standing which was then on Main street.

In 1863, Mr. Kleeman extended his business adding dry goods and shoes to his clothing stock, and took into partnership with him William Goldstein, a pleasant and courteous gentleman, who is still a member of the firm. The business has been moved westward on Main street several times, each removal being into larger and more commodious quarters. In 1875, the building on the south side of Main street now occupied by Kleeman, Goldstein & Sons, was built especially for them, and is a model of neatness and convenience. It is here that the immense stock of clothing and shoes is kept; while across the street, and one block farther west, in a handsome store building which was erected by the firm about fourteen years ago, they have a very full and complete line of dry goods. Mr. Goldstein and Morris Kleeman give their personal attention to this department of the business while Mr. Kleeman, himself, superintends the clothing and shoe department.

When twenty-three years old, Mr. Kleeman took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Rose Reiter, of Cincinnati. Miss Reiter was a native of Germany, but came to America some time before her marriage to Mr. Kleeman. To them were born four children, viz: Morris, Samuel E., Philip S., and Fanny. The familiar quotation:

"There is no flock, however watched and tended,
But one dead lamb is there!
There is no fireside, howsoe'er defended,
But has one vacant chair!"

does not hold good in regard to this family, for the circle has not been destroyed by the Reaper, Death. Morris Kleeman is a respected citizen of Shelbyville, and is the junior partner of the firm of which his father is the head. Samuel E. and Philip S. are located in Terre Haute, Indiana, and are carrying on a very successful business in the dry goods line. Miss Fanny married Mr. A. Wertheimer, a cattle commission merchant of Chicago, in which city they reside.

It can be said that the race prejudice which commonly obtains against those of the nationality of Mr. Kleeman, has been overcome in its entirety in this instance, by the honest business methods, the innate courtesy and upright character of this gentleman, than whom there are no more highly honored and respected in the business life of this county. He is also a prominent member of the County Commission of Charity, having been appointed to that office by Gov. Altgeid, several years since.

In 1899, Mr. Kleeman made a trip to the "Fatherland" and visited the place of his birth, which awakened in him many fond recollections of boyhood days.

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EDGAR D. KERR. M. D.

Dr. Edgar D. Kerr was born in DeGraff, Ohio, on the 14th of February, 1866. His parents, Joseph and Salome (Hudson) Kerr, are natives of Virginia. The father came to Illinois with his parents when but an infant; the mother came while still in her girlhood. Though, of course, Mr. Joseph Kerr has no recollection of

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the somewhat protracted trip which brought him to this state, he has heard from the lips of his parents, the recital of an experience which came near causing his death. The journey was made by wagon; and, while crossing the great Natural Bridge in Virginia, the infant Joseph was thrown from the vehicle, narrowly escaping destruction, by a most fortunate circumstance—a feather-bed, which chanced to be among the home-seeker's effects, performed the kindly office of spreading itself upon the rock, a fraction of a second before the babe reached it, thus perfectly breaking the fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kerr were genuine pioneers. In 1869, they moved to Logan county, Illinois. After six years spent there, they again turned their faces westward and continued their home-seeking until they settled in Oconee, Shelby county. In 1879, Mr. Kerr purchased the property near Tower Hill where he still resides. From his early life to the present time, he has been an agriculturist, and though now somewhat advanced in years, is remarkably well preserved and prosecutes his work with vigor and success.

Dr. Kerr spent his boyhood at home with his parents. Unlike some rural people, it was their desire to see their children well educated. Edgar received such training as a district school afforded, and in the year 1887—'88 gratified one of his ambitions, by attending a high school. While yet a youth, his mind became deeply impressed by the genial, courtly demeanor of an aged practitioner who was the family physician of the Kerrs. This influence awakened the desire to emulate the life of this "doctor of the old school." Hence, the life of Edgar has been characterized by devotion to study. Soon after reaching his majority, he began teaching

school, which calling he followed at broken intervals for several years. The doctor used the medium of pedagogy as the financier of his advanced educational plans. Like many another, he found in a few months in the school room, the means to pursue his studies in one of the higher institutions.

For three years Mr. Kerr studied medicine under Dr. J. H. Miller. This study was performed in addition to his regular work in the school room; which characterizes the doctor as a man of pluck and endurance. In the year 1889, he entered the Northern Normal, at Dixon, Illinois, where he received his literary and scientific training. The year 1891, found him a student in the medical department of the University of Illinois, otherwise known as The Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons. In this school Mr. Kerr received credit for one year's work already done, hence he was graduated as an M. D. in the class of '94. Immediately after graduation, the doctor formed a partnership with Dr. G. A. Smith, now deceased, and began the practice of medicine at Henton, Shelby county, Illinois.

On November 29th, 1896, the wedding bells rang for Dr. Edgar D. Kerr and Miss Alphretta Garvin; the marriage ceremony being performed in the city of Shelbyville. The parents of Mrs. Kerr are Mr. and Mrs. George and Mary (Pogue) Garvin. Almost immediately after marriage, Dr. Kerr began his practice in Brunswick, where he is still engaged in the noble profession of his choice. To Mr. Kerr and wife have been born two children, Joseph E., and Mary S. With the birth of these little ones, thus enlarging and brightening the home circle, the doctor could have joined with the hero of J. G. Holland's "*Kathrina*," saying:

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"Another fount
Of human love gurgled to meet my lips.
Another store of good, as rich as pure,
In its own kind, as that from which I drank,
Was thus discovered to my taste, and I
Feasted upon its fulness."

Dr. Kerr is a member of the following fraternal orders: F. and A. M., Woodmen of America, Royal Circle and the Modern Americans. He is also connected with the subjoined medical associations: American, State of Illinois, Central District, and Shelby County. The doctor is one of the three county health officers appointed by the state board. As a physician, Dr. Kerr has an excellent reputation. His practice is extensive and his services satisfactory. The community in which he resides prizes him not alone in his professional capacity, but he is respected as a citizen and gentleman. Mrs. Kerr, also, has a large place in the hearts of the country-folk among whom she lives. The place of esteem now occupied by this young family is the natural result of patient, persistent, and honest endeavor; it is the ripened fruit of previous tilling and sowing.

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JUDGE TRUMAN E. AMES.

On the second day of the middle year of the present century, there was born, in DeKalb, St. Lawrence county, New York, a boy who was destined to become one of the most prominent amongst the "legal lights" of Shelby county. This was Truman E. Ames, of whom we write this biographical sketch, and of whom honorable mention is made in the chapter on "The Bar," in this volume. He was the oldest of four boys born to Luman W. and Jane(Armin) Ames, who are now retired and spending their

declining years pleasantly in their home in Potsdam, N. Y., to which they removed some years since. Milton E. Ames, the second of the boys, has been for years, and still is, a resident of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and an engineer on the Grand Rapids & Indiana R. R. The third son, Ceylon W., who, by the way, was named for the island of Ceylon, is a resident of Centralia, Illinois, and was, until the loss of his sight, a locomotive inspector. Judson T. resides in Watertown, N. Y., and is a trusted engineer on the New York Central.

Truman received instruction in the district schools until his thirteenth year, when he was sent to the Graded Schools of Harmon, New York. After several years there, he, at the age of seventeen, began teaching school, continuing therein for several terms. Afterwards, he attended the Potsdam State Normal and Training school, and took a thorough course. When but twenty-one years of age, he came to Shelby county, locating at Windsor, where he was engaged as principal of the public schools. One of the teachers associated with him in that school was H. J. Hamlin, present Attorney General of this state, who was Mr. Ames' predecessor as principal of the school, and continued as such for one year, while Mr. Ames taught in one of the other departments.

After retiring from the Windsor schools, Mr. Ames again took up the study of law, which he had begun in New York. Recognizing the merits of the Michigan University, he entered its law department at Ann Arbor, and within two years, or in 1877, he graduated therefrom, and returned to Illinois, practicing law for one year in Rockford. Mr. Ames says he sometimes regrets not having remained there, but on the whole deems himself as well off, professionally, as though he had. An intimate friend and as-

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sociate of his younger days now occupies a position there, like unto the one which Mr. Ames now holds.

From Windsor, where Mr. Ames practiced until 1880, he came to Shelbyville, and has made his residence here during the twenty years intervening between then and the present. He secured a good and lucrative practice, and won the esteem and confidence of his legal associates and of the people; so that in 1886, he was elected as County Judge. So universally well-liked was he, and become so popular as an incumbent of this office, that he was re-elected for two succeeding terms, holding the position for ten years in all, being called to another position when his third term was but half completed.

"There is a destiny which shapes our ends,
Rough-hew them as we may."

so still greater honors were to be given Mr. Ames, for at the last Judicial election, in June of 1897, he was elevated to the Bench of the Circuit, composed of the following named counties: Shelby, Montgomery, Fayette, Christian, Effingham, Jasper, Clay, Marion and Clinton; being the 4th Judicial Circuit of Illinois. His duties as Circuit Judge he has ever performed "without fear or favor," and is one of the most popular Judges ever occupying the Bench of this Circuit.

We must not proceed further without making mention of the beautiful and happy home-life of Judge Ames. In May of 1874, he was united in marriage to one of Windsor's most popular and charming young ladies, Miss Dora Hilsabeck, daughter of James A. and Sarah J. Hilsabeck, of that town. Mr. Hilsabeck was a native of Shelbyville. Mrs. Hilsabeck now resides in Stewardson, the widow of him who died there in May of 1898.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ames has been born one child, now a young man of sterling qualities, who is taking his last year in the Dental College in Indianapolis. The entire family are members of the First M. E. church here, the Judge being a member of the official board of the same.

Amongst the ways in which Judge Ames has served the public, was in the capacity of member of the Board of Education, which position he held for six years; also as City Attorney, to which position he was appointed by a Republican mayor and council, notwithstanding the fact of his being a staunch Democrat. This action clearly attests his popularity. He was serving his second term as such attorney, when called to the office of County Judge. As has been intimated, he is a Democrat, and has ever been very active and zealous in supporting the men and measures of his party.

Fraternally, Mr. Ames is a member of Godfrey de Boullion Commandery, No. 44, of Mattoon; Jaskson Lodge, No. 53, A. F. & A. M.; Black Hawk Lodge, No. 83, K. of P., and Uniform Rank No. 40. Personally, it is a pleasure to meet Judge Ames, as he is a very approachable and courteous gentleman, having none of that austerity about him, which is so often noted in men who have been exalted to positions such as he occupies; and a caller at his comfortable and pleasant home on Broadway, is ever sure of a pleasurable reception by both Mr. and Mrs. Ames.

* * * *

HENRY MILLER.

It becomes our pleasurable task to record a brief epitome of the life of another old and well-known and respected resident of Shelby county,

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a veteran of the Civil war, having fought in the Union ranks upon Southern battlefields—Henry Miller, of the township of Okaw.

The 18th of February, 1817, was the day of his birth, and the county of Somerset, Pennsylvania, the place. He was the only boy among four children born to Joseph and Sarah (Robinson) Miller. Mrs. Miller was English-born, but came to America when a babe of six months. Mr. Miller was of German descent, but born in America. He was a farmer and drover, buying cattle in summer and horses in winter, for the Baltimore market. Upon many of these overland trips did young Henry go, assisting his father principally in the management of the horses. A night school was the only one ever attended by him, but the lack of "schooling" has been largely supplied by a keen perception and sound sense.

Mr. Miller's first sojourn away from the parental home, was a year, spent in Louisville, Kentucky, where he worked in a sawmill, and from whence he returned home with one hundred dollars in his pocket. In 1856 he came to Jefferson county, Indiana, remaining there until 1859, when he removed to Rushville, Illinois. Two years later he went to Beardstown, Illinois, at which place, on the 10th of August of the succeeding year, he enlisted in 115 Illinois, Company D, and remained until fall, in Camp Butler. From there, he went with his regiment to Covington, Ky., where they received arms and ammunition. He was in the battles of Nashville and Franklin, and at the latter place assisted in the building of Fort Granger. He fought valiantly in the battles of Chickamauga, and aided in the capture of Hood's department, at Decatur, Alabama. He also took active part in the famous battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, and was with Sherman on

his memorable march "from Atlanta to the Sea." Granger and Rosecrans were the two generals under whose command he fought, throughout the war.

In all his experience in battle, Mr. Miller was never wounded, but on more than one occasion, had his clothing riddled with bullets; which shows that danger is indeed present with the boys who stand at their post in the ranks on the battlefields.

On the 23rd of February, 1868, Mr. Miller and Miss Tobisa Helens were united in marriage. Miss Helens was the daughter of Ohio parents, but who were at the time of her marriage, residing in Shelbyville. There were two children born to Mr. and Mrs. Miller; Annie, who became the wife of William A. Camp, of the southern part of the state, and afterward, in 1898, died; and John, who remains at home, the stay of his parents in their declining years.

At the close of the war, and after receiving an honorable discharge, Mr. Miller spent a couple of years on the Illinois river, and then coming here, worked on a farm for Alex. Boys one year. After his marriage, however, he leased a farm until 1870, when he bought the farm in Section 28, of Okaw township, upon which he still lives. A year ago he sold forty acres of land, but still has one hundred twenty acres.

At the good old age of eighty-three Mr. Miller is hale and hearty, takes a part in the farm labor, and drives to the city once or twice each week. He is respected in his neighborhood and amongst all who know him, is a member of the G. A. R., and has been school director of his district several times.

Mr. Miller had a part in the development of the country in the early part of the century, having peeled ties for the first railroad in the United



REV. J. H. EPLER.



PHILIP PARKER.

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States, and was with John Quincy Adams when he launched the first steam-boat on the Alleghany river.

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JAMES BONNELL ISENBERG.

The subject of this review, one of Shelbyville's prominent business men, was born near Petersburg, Pennsylvania, January 24, 1845. The family of which he is a member, descends from Gerlach Von Isenberg, of Germany, in the year 966. This family, which is a royal one, continues to hold its place in the affairs of the German Empire. Karl Isenberg is today a member of the Prussian House of Lords.

James B. Isenberg's boyhood days were spent on the farm of his father in Pennsylvania. When the Civil war broke out he enlisted, and spent two years in active military service, as a member of Company K, 22nd Pennsylvania Cavalry. He was in the battle of Winchester, and saw Phil Sheridan when he arrived within the lines, after his memorable ride, from which originated the famous poem, "Sheridan's Ride."

After receiving an honorable discharge from the service of Uncle Sam, and in 1867, Mr. Isenberg came to Illinois, and obtained employment in the wholesale Book and Stationery House of S. A. Maxwell & Co., of Bloomington, as porter. By diligence and close application to his employers' interests, he worked his way through each branch of the business and when he left their employ he had been traveling salesman for several years.

In December of 1880, Mr. Isenberg was united in marriage to Miss Mollie Parker, the accomplished daughter of Philo and Denima Parker, of Shelbyville. To this union have been born, whose names are as follows: James Bon-

nell, Zoe Parker, Philo James, David Bruce and Lula Fay. Two, James B. and Philo J., died in infancy.

In 1882 Mr. Isenberg engaged in the grocery business, from which time he has been a leading representative of that business in the city. He is a great lover of music, and has been for years identified with the musical people of Shelbyville. He is a member of the famous McKinley Quartet, which is well known throughout the state. He is an ardent republican in politics, and a member of the First Methodist church.

Mrs. Isenberg is the only daughter of her parents, is a cultured and refined lady, and was graduated from the Shelbyville High school and the Woman's College, of Evanston. The family occupies a prominent place in the society circles of the city.

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PHILIP PARKER.

A little more than seventy years ago, the subject of this review was born on his father's farm, in Saratoga county, New York, he and his brother Philo, whose biography also appears in this volume, being twins. May 8, 1830, was the day of his birth. The father, Samuel Parker, was a prominent farmer of his county, whose death occurred in 1863. Mrs. Parker, who died in 1848, was a daughter of a Mr. and Mrs. Du Bois, also residents of Saratoga county.

The school life of Philip Parker, was all spent in the common school of his own district, though his business activity and contact with the world has given him an excellent knowledge of men and affairs. When about seventeen years of age, Philip left home, going to Syracuse, where he remained until his marriage. It was

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while here, that on January 27, 1853, he was united in marriage to Miss Helen Schuyler, a native of Onondago county, her parents, Philip and Lent (Becker) Schuyler, being pioneers of Syracuse. They established their home there very soon after the completion of the Erie canal, and before a railroad had found its way through that section of the Empire state, where there is now such a perfect railway system and complete passenger and mail service. The parents of Mrs. Parker were of German descent, and died some years ago, in the home where they had lived for so long. Mrs. Parker comes from a very old and respectable family, of which General Schuyler, of Revolutionary fame, was a prominent member.

After residing in Syracuse for six years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Parker removed to Shelby county, settling upon a farm, where they remained for several years. The third year after taking up their residence upon the farm, their home was burned to the ground, and was to them a total loss, as they had no insurance upon it. Mr. Parker gratefully remembers the kindness of a neighbor who signified his intention of "taking up a collection" to assist in the rebuilding of the home destroyed by fire. This, however, Mr. Parker would not permit, preferring that the kindness and generosity should be extended to others who might be in more actual need. Such generous acts, however, were no uncommon thing in the early days of our country, and serve to illustrate the bond which united the pioneers in mutual helpfulness and friendliness.

After leaving the farm Mr. and Mrs. Parker removed to Shelbyville, and now occupy a very fine and commodious residence on Broadway. Mr. Parker purchased the Opera House block in 1874, and is the possessor of other business and residence property. Aside from looking after

his agricultural interests to which he devotes considerable time, he has, for years, dealt extensively in real estate.

Mr. Parker is not a politician, and has never plucked or received any political "plum." However, he has been a staunch Republican from the inception of that party. He is not connected with any church organization, but has a profound respect for any creed or denomination which has an elevating moral tendency and influence, and attends with his wife, the services of the First Methodist church, of which Mrs. Parker is a member.

In the commercial circles of Shelbyville, Mr. Parker bears the reputation of an honorable and upright business man, who has ever dealt justly with those with whom he has had any business transactions.

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JOHN A. TACKETT.

Sixty-eight years prior to the 28th of September, 1900, the subject of this review was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Tackett, natives of Virginia. Mr. Tackett was born in Prince William county, afterward removing to Stafford county, from whence he came to Shelby in 1829, and lived here until his death, thirty-one years later. His wife was Miss Enfield Mason, born in the county of Stafford and lived until 1837. John A. Tackett was one of three boys born to this couple, the others being Charles A., born in 1817, and who died in 1866; and William J., born in 1827, and who still resides in the city of Shelbyville. There is also a half-sister of the boys, who is the wife of Mr. Ed. Hopkins, the druggist; and there was a half-brother, George Tackett, who died about 1869.

John A. Tackett received his education from

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the schools and college of Shelbyville, and Paris, Illinois, respectively, and later engaged as clerk in a dry goods' store. Noting the possibilities of making money in the buying and selling of stock, he afterward engaged in that business, laying the foundation for the comfortable fortune he has since acquired. In about the year 1850, Mr. Tackett with Joseph Sutton and John M. Thornton as partners, established a grocery store, and for about 25 years continued the same, working up and retaining a right good trade in their line of goods. In 1875, Mr. Thornton became sole proprietor of the grocery, and Mr. Tackett engaged in the business of a broker, and also supervised several farms which he had acquired.

Early in the year 1880, Mr. Tackett took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Flora N. Cash. Her parents are Henry H. and Rebecca Cash, then of Westfield, Illinois, but who are now spending their declining years in the city of Shelbyville. One daughter has been the issue of this marriage—Irma, who was born on the 3rd day of November, 1880, and who is finishing her education in a Young Ladies' school in the city of Washington, D. C. Miss Tackett is a very estimable young lady, and has a host of friends and admirers in Shelbyville.

It has been the lot of Mr. Tackett to be successful in all his business enterprises. He is of an aggressively energetic nature, and that to which he gives his attention and support is very likely to be prosecuted to a satisfactory consummation. His business methods are above criticism, and he enjoys the confidence of his contemporaries. Upon the institution of the County State Bank, Mr. Tackett was chosen by the Directors as its vice-president, and is still an incumbent of that office of trust. For years he was one of the councilmen of the city in which he

lives, and assisted very materially in carrying on wisely, the affairs of the same.

Mr. and Mrs. Tackett occupy a beautiful residence on North Broadway, and enjoy, to an enviable degree, the esteem of the society in which they move.

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H. BRUCE TROUT.

The subject of this biography, H. B. Trout, was born on a farm near Paris, Illinois, in the year 1859. He was the son of D. S. Trout, who died in Arcola about eleven years since. The maiden name of his mother was Jannette McCormick, who is still a resident of Arcola. He received a common and high school education, and was ever of a mechanical turn of mind which later led him into his present career. He received no inheritance from his parents except that of a rugged constitution and an honest, upright character, which he has preserved to the present. When but seven years of age, he removed with his parents to Arcola, where he remained until his eighteenth year, a student in the schools of that place. From that time on, for a period of fifteen years, he was engaged in a diversity of pursuits in various places, ranging from Indiana to Wyoming.

In September, 1883, Mr. Trout took unto himself a wife, in the person of Miss India Coon, of Mattoon, the daughter of David and Zelia Coon. Her father, who is now deceased, was at that time a prosperous shoe dealer of Mattoon. Mrs. Coon is now a resident of Indianapolis. To Mr. and Mrs. Trout has been born one daughter, Miss Ruby, a bright, intelligent girl of fifteen summers.

Upon their removal to Shelbyville, Mrs. Trout, who had had twenty-three years' exper-

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ience as a trimmer, purchased the millinery business of Mrs. M. M. Sutton, who had been in business here for a number of years. Though without any previous experience in the conduct of such an enterprise for herself, Mrs. Trout was eminently successful from the very first, and has enjoyed a large patronage to the present. About the close of her first year here, she suffered the loss of her profits, through the Thornton bank failure, but was gratified in that it did not financially embarrass her.

About nine years ago Mr. Trout came to Shelbyville and opened a jobbing machine shop. The firm of Trout Brothers was established, of which he was the senior member. In the same year they began the manufacture of highway bridges, between which time and 1897, they constructed about one hundred fifty such bridges. In this latter year, the building of bridges having become unprofitable through competition and certain rulings of the Board of Supervisors, they discontinued this branch of the business, but still continue the machine shop under the same firm name. In 1895 they put in an electric light plant, and from that time to the present have furnished the electric light of the city.

Mr. Trout is not at all backward in pronouncing himself a Democrat, but has never held any elective office. He was, however, superintendent of the Water Works for four years.

Mrs. Trout and Miss Ruby are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the family occupy a prominent place in social circles.

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ANDREW ULMER AND FAMILY.

For thirty years and more, the family, of whom we pen this sketch, has been well known in, and closely identified with the development

of the southeastern portion of Shelby county. The late Albert Ulmer was born in Baden, Germany, August 14, 1831. He was the son of Jacob Fr. Ulmer, who, with his family, emigrated to America and settled in Hocking county, Ohio, in 1833. In this Ohio home the boy Andrew grew to manhood's estate, and on the 24th of May, 1854, was married to a Miss Brunner. As has been indicated, Mr. and Mrs. Ulmer removed from Ohio to Shelby county in 1866, settling upon a farm. In the same year, Mr. Ulmer united with the German Lutheran St. Paul's church, at Strasburg, and remained a faithful member of the same until his death thirty-two years later. Sixteen children were born to this couple, mention of whom we make, as follows: Jacob F. Ulmer was born in Hocking county, Ohio, in 1854, and came to this county with his parents. When he attained his majority he identified himself with the Democratic party, and was so faithful in his support of the principles of the party that he was rewarded at the election of 1898, by receiving the treasurership of the county for the succeeding term. Mr. Ulmer was married to Miss Matilda Streng, of Richland township, and five children have been born to bless the union. He is a popular incumbent of the office which he holds, discharging the duties thereof in a manner pleasing to those who do business with the county treasurer. Elizabeth, born September 29, 1855, is now the wife of Y. W. Strohl, of Prairie township; Phebe, born January 8, 1857, is married to Phillip Kneller, and lives in Richland. Andrew, born March 3, 1858, died when but two years of age; John G., was born July 9, 1860, is married, and lives on a farm in Prairie; Christina Maggie was born October 4, 1861, and is still at home, keeping house for the aged mother; Mary Helen, born December 27, 1862, is now a

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resident of Mattoon; Matilda Julia, born January 30, 1864, is now the wife of Daniel Krile, of Richland; Henry D. was born on the 5th of May in the years previous to that in which the family removed to Shelby county. He was first married to Anna Wangerlein, who was born in Chicago, July 20, 1862, and died in Stewardson, January 26, 1894. To her was born one child, Martha E., November 25, 1890. The second marriage of Henry Ulmer occurred in Stewardson, on April 18, 1895, when he was united to Minnie Dwensing, who was born in Mattoon, February 15, 1873. Three bright children have been born of this union; Harold H., January 20, 1896; Alfred A., October 16, 1897; and Carl C., January 12, 1900. Mr. Ulmer is in business in Stewardson. Sarah Caroline Ulmer, was born in Strasburg, December 17, 1866, and died in Effingham, Illinois, February 15, 1898; William C., born July 11, 1868, is now a resident of Strasburg; Charles P., born August 28, 1870 is a carpenter by trade; Emma L., born June 21, 1873, is a resident of Prairie township, the wife of Hermann Wangerlein; Thomas David was born March 28, 1867, is married and resides in Prairie; Mike Ben was born November 24, 1877, and died in 1889, at the age of twelve years; the youngest of these sixteen children is Martin Louis, whose birth occurred June 6, 1880, and who is an industrious young man, who remains at home, looking after the affairs of his mother.

Mrs. Ulmer was born November 7, 1873, in Old Baltimore. She was ever a faithful helpmeet to her husband, with whom she lived in holy wedlock for forty-four years, and a kind, indulgent mother; and now, in her declining years she enjoys the love and confidence of her numerous descendants and of the entire community of which she is a member.

JAMES WESLEY LOVINS.

James Wesley Lovins was one of Shelby county's early settlers. He came here in the fall of 1830, driving through, in a two-wheel cart, from Tennessee. He was born in North Carolina on the 29th day of January, 1807. The remote ancestry of Mr. Lovins was doubtless of Irish origin. His parents were Hugh and Elizabeth (Forrest) Lovins. When Mr. Lovins began his journey to Illinois, he had with him, as a maximum of available resources, the sum of eighteen dollars in silver coin. This sum must have become nearly, if not quite, exhausted on the journey. Shortly after his arrival here, he suffered the loss of his only horse which fell from a bluff and was killed. On one occasion he was notified of a letter in waiting for him at the post office, on which there was due twenty-five cents. Having no money with which to pay the postage, he was obliged to delay his reception of the letter until he could split one hundred rails, for which labor he received the necessary sum. These incidents serve to show the privations of the early settlers, and some of the obstacles and trials which they constantly encountered.

During his youth, Mr. Lovins spent his days on a farm in Tennessee. He took for a wife Miss Miriam Siler, who with their two first born children, came with him, in the cart, from their southern home. They settled near Young's Bridge in what is now Moultrie county. Afterwards, they moved to a place adjacent to the New Liberty church, for which structure they donated the site. From this place they never removed. Mr. Lovins was the father of eight children, whose names we subjoin in the order of their birth: James Wesley, Benjamin, Andrew, Aaron, John W., Alfred B., Wesley C., and Robert Bracken.

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Mr. Lovins was considered a successful business man. He was not in any sense of the word a politician, and never sought or held a public office; yet, notwithstanding, he was intensely interested in good government. In early life he became personally acquainted with Andrew Jackson, and for some time after coming to Illinois, he too, was dubbed "Old Hickory." He may be styled, politically, a Jacksonian democrat. Mr. Lovins was one of the original members of the Church of Christ, before mentioned, and until his death remained a faithful member of the same. Mrs. Lovins passed from earth January 23rd, 1846. Not until forty-seven years had elapsed did Mr. Lovins join his wife in the spirit world. His death occurred on the 4th of September, 1893; and this man who had often journeyed miles on horseback to attend "meeting," was borne on angel wings into the great "temple not made with hands."

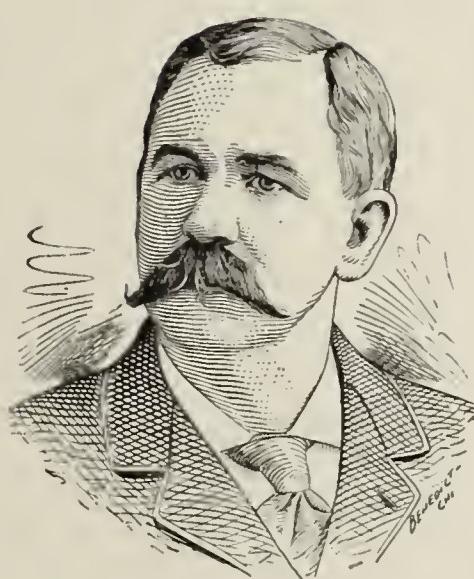
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BENJAMIN HARRISON LOVINS.

On the 15th day of March, A. D. 1830, Benjamin H. Lovins was born into a humble home in Bedford county, Tennessee. His ancestry may be traced by reading the preceding biographical sketch of James W. Lovins. The life of Mr. Lovins is almost entirely contemporary with the history of Shelby county. He recalls very vividly the days when boys were sent away with a small grist, to a far distant mill; such journeys being made on horseback. When he returned from such trip, he found three fine deer hung up at home. His father had killed the three deer during his absence. From the result of this day's sport we may draw a fair inference as to the abundance of game in this early day. Hogs and other live

stock were marketed at Terre Haute, being driven through in large droves. Most farm produce found its market in St. Louis, and it was from that distant point most family supplies were hauled. As may be surmised, Mr. Lovins received only a little book training, but his business and industrial education were in advance of the ordinary. In the year 1851, Mr. Lovins was united in marriage to Miss Mary Grider, a daughter of Elder Tobias Grider who, for many years, was one of Shelby's early circuit preachers. Miss Grider, at the time of her marriage, was twenty years of age, having been born in Putnam county, Indiana, A. D. 1832. To this couple were born the following named children: Elizabeth M., Tobias W., Belle, Susan, Peter W., Jacob A., and Charles W. Three of the daughters and two of the sons are already deceased—Elizabeth (Miller), Tobias, and Jacob being the only living ones. Mrs. Lovins bade her husband and children a last farewell on the 21st day of March, 1873, and her "spirit returned to God."

In January, 1877, Mr. Lovins took a second helpmeet in the person of Sarah E. Turrentine, who still lives to cheer his declining years. In half a century, he has not moved his residence one-half of a mile. Mr. Lovins has ever supported the national democratic ticket, but in local matters has always been an independent. His religious and home life can scarcely receive too high a commendation. His greatest thought has ever been to please His Maker and "care for those of his own household." For more than forty years he has been an official member of the church at Sand Creek. He has reached the great boundary of life which is set at "three score years and ten," but is still hale and hearty. Truly "The hoary head is a crown of glory, if he be found in the way of righteousness."



JAMES A. BABB.

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TOBIAS W. LOVINS.

Tobias W. Lovins, the subject of this sketch, was born in Windsor township, three and one-half miles northwest of the village of Windsor, on November 25, 1855. He is the eldest son of B. H. and Mary (Grider) Lovins, who still live on the old homestead, in a residence near that of their son. Mr. Lovins spent his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm, receiving a common school education in the adjacent schools. He was ever fond of farm life, and early gave evidence of his adaptability to successfully carry on that work. At the age of 27 years, he was united in marriage to Miss Ethel Wallace, of Windsor, a daughter of William and Miranda (Bruce) Wallace. Four children were born to them, namely: Foy Otto, Elsie Fay, Mabel Florence and Mary Bertha, all of whom are living; and the eldest, Foy, is attending the State University at Champaign. Honor is due the man, who, not having had college training himself, still recognizes the worth of it and gladly gives to his children the advantages of such an education.

In 1890 Mr. Lovins associated himself with his father, in the hardware and implement business under the firm name of B. H. & T. W. Lovins, which business was conducted in the village of Windsor. It was while living in the village that Mr. Lovins suffered the loss of his beloved wife, who died on the 10th of January, 1891, and was laid to rest in the home cemetery. In 1895, the hardware business was disposed of to William Storm, who now conducts it, and Mr. Lovins returned to the farm where he still resides. In the year following he constructed what is unquestionably the most beautiful and substantial frame dwelling to be found on any of the farms in the county of Shelby. The neatness and gen-

eral appearance of the residence are attractive to the eye as one nears it. The interior furnishings and appointments are suggestive of great comfort and even luxury and the whole indicates that Mr. Lovins is possessed of native refinement and good taste.

Rural life has ever been productive of sturdy and unimpeachable character, and in the development of this principle, Mr. Lovins is no exception. Sharing with him the esteem and good will of the entire community and township in which they live, is his present wife, to whom he was married in 1899, and who was Margaret Baldwin, daughter of John and Rachel (Davis) Seroggin, of Windsor.

* * * *

JACOB A. LOVINS.

Jacob Alfred Lovins, the second son of B. H. and Mary Lovins, was born March 3, 1867, on the old homestead three and one-half miles northwest of the village of Windsor, in the township bearing the same name.

In his early youth, Mr. Lovins manifested a naturally studious disposition, and by close application to study in the schools of the township in which he lived, he acquired a common school education a little above the ordinary; and at the early age of 17 years, without even a High school training, he became fitted for teaching, in which profession he then engaged. After three years of successful work in the school room, he yielded to the attractiveness of agricultural pursuits and returned to the farm to engage in the same, and ever since has given his undivided attention to the work of scientific farming and stock feeding. It is a thoroughly established principle of Mr. Lovins, that the farmer should be amongst the best informed men, and it is not

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simply a theory with him, for he has put this belief into every day practice, keeping himself well informed by the reading of books and papers on agriculture and along other lines of interest, as well. As a natural consequence of this, coupled with unremitting toil, he has one of the very best farms of the county. He is on the government mail route, and receives daily mail at the farm.

Believing in the well founded doctrine which has obtained since the inception of mankind, that "It is not good that man should be alone," on March 15, 1887, Mr. Lovins was united in marriage to Miss Louise J. Fleming, daughter of Capt. John A. P. and Louise (Petitt) Fleming. Mrs. Lovins was born in Little Rock, Ark., June 21, 1866, but in infancy was left alone by the death of her parents. She was taken into the family of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Dawdy, with whom she lived until her marriage. She received a good common school and college education, having taken a thorough course in the Jacksonville Female college.

To Mr. and Mrs. Lovins were born six beautiful children, the second of whom, Don, died in infancy; the others, viz.: Lena, Benjamin Wirt, Nellie, Winifred and Elizabeth, live to bless and make glad the home circle.

In young manhood, Mr. Lovins became a member of the Church of Christ at Sand Creek, and has continued in the faithful and conscientious performance of his religious duties, each Lord's Day finding him at the place of worship. In politics he has always voted with the Democrats on the National ticket, but in local political affairs he is very liberal, believing in voting for the best man for the office, irrespective of party affiliations. Unlike many men, he is in politics from principle and not for personal gain, and consequently has never sought, nor ac-

cepted, any public office; neither has he any political aspirations along that line.

Mr. Lovins occupies a comfortable home near his birthplace, and, with his wife, enjoys an enviable reputation amongst their wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

* * * *

GEORGE W. BOLINGER.

There is one thing in the wide universe that is really valuable, and that is character. By this is meant a confidence in the bosoms of those who know you, that you have the power, the capacity and the disposition to confer happiness upon others. Other things may be deemed fortuitous; they may come and go; but character is that which lives and abides, and is admired long after its possessor has left the earth.

There can be no truer illustration of such a character, than that of George Washington Bolinger, of whom we write this memorial biography, and which fully measures up to this high standard. We write of a man well-known in Shelbyville for a number of years, whose character was unimpeachable and is still admired, though "its possessor has left the earth." On the 16th of February, 1900, occurred the death of this man whose life had been an eventful one, yet peaceful and serene withal; replete with early struggles and adversities, yet crowned with later successes and victories; hedged round about by almost insurmountable obstacles, yet, by earnest endeavor and indomitable courage, fraught with noble achievements.

Mr. Bolinger was born in Sharpsburg, Maryland, A. D. 1839. His parents were John G. and Mary Bolinger; the death of the latter occurring when George was but ten years of age, and this bereavement was the cause of sending

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him out into the world to do battle for himself. How nobly he did battle, is shown by his later years. He had but a few years of common school education, yet from his inherent powers of perception and observation, and his general reading, together with the knowledge which is best gained by practical application of business methods, he became a well-educated and informed man. At the tender age of twelve years, he was apprenticed to a harness-maker, for the beggarly pittance of twenty-five dollars and board per year. He was compelled to work at night as well as by day, in order to earn sufficient money with which to purchase suitable clothing. Some time afterward, he moved from Sharpsburg to Hagerstown, in the same state, and engaged there in making saddlery and harness.

In Hagerstown, Mr. Bolinger met Miss Margaret S. Staley, whom he wedded in 1860. Miss Staley's parents were Warfield and Mary Staley, the father being the owner and operator of an extensive tanyard. Five children were born to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bolinger, all of whom are living and now reside in the city of Shelbyville. These are Mary E., who is the wife of W. O. Wallace, State's Attorney, George C., Charles E., Jesse W., and Frank C. Bolinger, a biographical sketch of whom follows this.

Immediately after their marriage, Mr. Bolinger brought his young bride to Springfield, Illinois, where he established himself in the harness business. After several years of successful dealing in this line, he engaged for two years in the dry goods business, and then, for twenty consecutive years, dealt extensively in stoves, tin and hardware. In 1886, he removed to Shelbyville, where he engaged with F. J. Fraker in a general merchandise store. For three years

this partnership continued, whereupon Mr. Bolinger moved into a store of his own, and was assisted in the conduct of the business by three sons. This enterprise by his wonderful perspicacity and perseverance, grew to be the largest and most successful general business ever conducted in the county. Mr. Bolinger knew every detail of his business; he bought his own stock; he understood thoroughly the successful and unsuccessful points in the make-up of each of his employees. Those who have been in his employ remember him kindly for his word of appreciation, never left unsaid when it was merited.

Of Mr. Bolinger, it has been said: "On the street, in his home or at his place of business, he had a smile and a hearty hand-shake for any and all—rich or poor, great or small. And when he sold a spool of thread to a child, it was done with as much grace as though he were selling a fifty-dollar dress to the wife of a millionaire. Numerous were his generous and charitable daily deeds which the world knows nothing of. Time and again men have gone to Mr. Bolinger and told him their families needed bread, and he cheerfully loaded a sack of flour upon the poor man's shoulder and put the price of it into the till from his own pocket. And when this same poor man came around again he wasn't treated like a pauper; but, clasping his hand warmly, this noble-hearted merchant would look upon him as a brother and consider him a man "for a' that!" Such is the reputation of this prince among men, who has left a vacancy in society and church and business circles which is, indeed, difficult to fill. Mr. Bolinger was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church all of his life-time, and in his death, the First church of Shelbyville lost an earnest, faithful Christian worker, who, with his youthful spirit, ever delighted to associate with, and work

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among and for, the young people, being diligent in the prosecution of any cause which had for its object the uplifting of his fellow men.

Mr. Bolinger was a kind and tender husband of the loved wife who survives him, and an indulgent father, yet ever faithful to his ideals in the training of his children; and a man of whom hundreds speak with reverence, and are glad to call him "friend."

* * * *

GEORGE W. BOLINGER'S SONS.

George W. Bolinger, while passing along the rugged hill of life, remembered that there were children growing up about him; and he was not so absorbed in the cares and pursuits of his generation that he forgot the next. So he took great care in rearing the superstructure of his character, that its influence might rest upon his four manly sons, inspiring them to diligence and activity in business, inculcating in them the principles of a righteous life.

The sons of George W. and Margaret S. Bolinger are George C., born in 1863; Charles E., in 1871; Jesse W., in 1873, and Frank C., in 1883. The boys were all born in Springfield, Illinois, where the parents lived for more than a score of years. Their education in the common branches, was received in the schools of Springfield and Shelbyville, while they have each taken a course in Business college, to give them a thorough business training, and qualify them to intelligently and successfully carry on the magnificent mercantile business established by the father. As they grew old enough, each, in succession, engaged in business with his father, and the practical training which they received from seeing his business ideas and methods put into use, and worked out to a favorable issue,

has been of no inconsiderable value to them in their conduct of the business since his death. They own, and conduct a thriving trade in, four big stores; one Clothing, one Dry Goods, one Carpets, Cloaks and Ladies' Suits, and one Grocery; making in all one large Department store, in an excellent location on Main street, of Shelbyville. Jesse W. is manager and does the buying for the clothing department; Charles E. sustains a like relation to the dry goods, carpets and shoe department; while Frank C., with an assistant, conducts the grocery. George C. is the genial, general manager and capable financier of the entire enterprise.

It is a pleasurable experience to meet and talk with any of these young men, and note the culture and refinement, and inherent sterling qualities which come alone from early parental training in a Christian home. All of the boys are connected with the church, as members of excellent repute and extensive influence. Charles belongs to the Baptist denomination, while the others are affiliated with the First M. E. church.

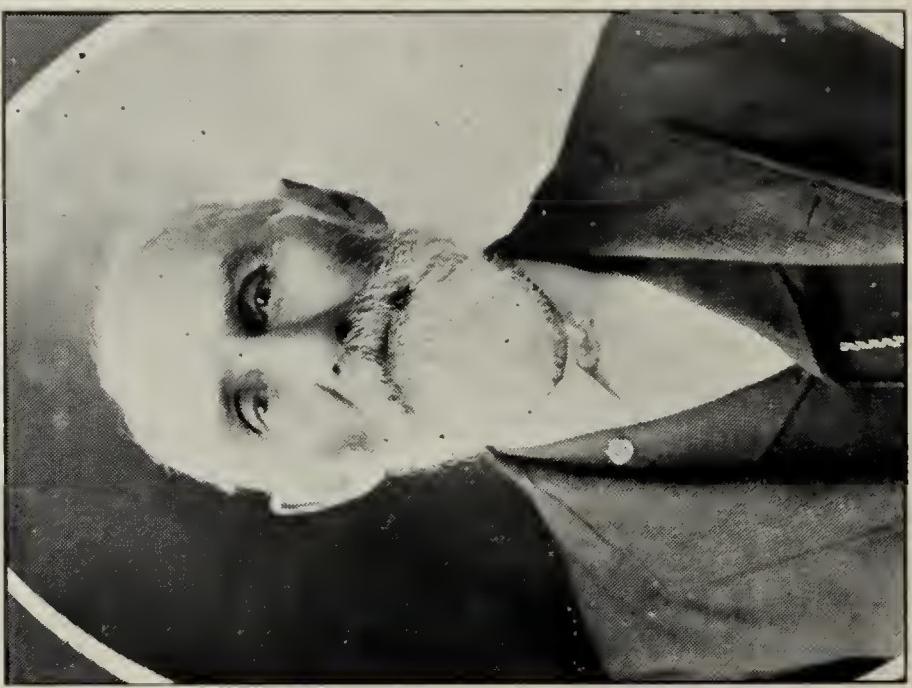
George and Charles are both married, occupying comfortable homes in the city. To Mr. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bolinger has been born one child. Jesse and Frank still reside under the parental roof, and are the companions of their mother's widowhood.

The business, in which George W. Bolinger's Sons are engaged, considering these times of close competition, has been wonderfully successful. It is quite probable, however, it has not made the money piled up by old line men, having for its motto, "Big Sales and Small Profits;" still, selling for cash, its sales have reached amounts never before equalled by any firm in Shelbyville. The widely known and approved business methods of these men, draw trade to

ANDREW HUDSON.



GEORGE P. COOK.



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their store from many miles around, and in this way other merchants of the city are profited. Everything purchased by them is paid in spot cash, thus securing goods at rock-bottom prices, which enables them to compete with any store in the county. Those who deal at their stores, are sure of receiving good goods, and at the lowest market prices.

The boys have enhanced each others social, domestic and commercial welfare, by remaining together, believing that "In union there is strength."

The outlook for future prosperity for these young men, is bright, and we prophesy for them a continuance of the esteem and confidence in which they are now held by their host of friends and customers.

* * * *

GEORGE P. COOK.

Since the spring of 1865, George P. Cook, proprietor of the New Neal and subject of this review, has been closely identified with the interests of Shelbyville. He was born in Funkstown in the county of Washington, Maryland, on the 18th day of January, 1830. He was the son of John Cook, a native of Pennsylvania, but who moved to Funkstown about 1823, and was a blacksmith by trade, at which he labored until his death in 1857. The maiden name of his mother was Hannah Huffman, whom death removed when George was but seventeen years of age.

Mr. Cook has a very vivid recollection of a great cholera epidemic which swept through his native town when he was but three years old. A large number of the brightest and best fell under the cruel hand of the destroyer, many dying even upon the streets. He also remembers

with great distinctness the destroying by fire of a large factory in this same year, the burning of which he watched from the window of his home, and which made a deep impression on his childish mind. He was a boy in the very fullest sense of that term, and so entered without reserve into the sports, the amusements and mischiefs of "boydom." As has been the case with other boys, so it was with him, that his mischievous propensities often interfered with proper study and preparation of school lessons; and though many years have passed, Mr. Cook remembers very well the condign punishments inflicted by the Master because of these shortcomings and the mischievous pranks. As is well known, there were no free schools nor educational privileges in the days when Mr. Cook was a boy, but each pupil had to pay to the teacher a certain sum each week; and it was during the last few months of his school days, when obliged to earn and pay his own tuition fee, that he received the greater part of his book-learning.

It is said that for every person there is a trio of events—birth, marriage, death—and that around these hover all the other incidents of one's life. When the century was half gone, there came to Mr. Cook the second of these, and on the 2nd of October, 1850, he led to the altar Miss Mary M. Carson, daughter of George and Matilda Carson, of Hagerstown, Maryland. Of very few who were married in the year in which Mr. and Mrs. Cook were, can it be said that they lived together until the close of the century. But so it is with this couple, for on October 2nd, 1900, they reached the fiftieth milestone of wedded life and celebrated their golden wedding. It was one of the most pleasing social events which Shelbyville society has participated in for many a day. Three hundred invitations had been sent out to relatives and friends and

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most of these responded, so that the Neal House, beautifully yet tastefully decorated, fairly teemed with happy mirth and genial company. Mr. and Mrs. Cook, though with silvered hair, still looked the blushing bride and bridegroom of fifty years ago as they received the hearty words of esteem and congratulations of the guests, many of whom had known them for several decades and who wish for them still many years of conjugal felicity.

Seven children have been born to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Cook, only three of whom are living. Three of the four deceased ones were given to earth but a little while—just long enough to have entwined about their infant lives the heartstrings of the parents, which were soon ruthlessly sundered. The memorial biography of the other, Edith, follows this one.

Of the living, Lillie A. was born near Funkstown, in 1854. At the age of twenty-one she was married to Joseph Murphy. They now reside at Philadelphia, where Mr. Murphy is engaged in photography. Nettie C. Cook was born while her parents lived in Funkstown, in 1856. She, also, was married the year she reached her majority, to Col. E. E. South, who is general agent of the Big Four Route at Terre Haute, where they live. Ellsworth, the only living son, was born in 1862. His name is well known, he being possessed of a voice of rare sweetness and power, and having traveled through many states as a member of a noted minstrel troupe. He is now associated with his father in the hotel business as the genial and popular manager of the New Neal.

Mr. Cook's first removal from Funkstown was in 1851, to the country near the village,

where he remained four years, then returning to town where he engaged in the shoe-making business until 1862. For the two succeeding years, he "kept tavern" in Funkstown, where he provided food for man and fodder for beast. His next removal was to Boonesborough, Md., in 1864, when he formed a partnership in a restaurant and saloon, which he continued until January, 1865. In the spring of that year, Mr. Cook moved his family to Shelbyville, and was employed for a year as book-keeper and salesman by his brother and William Thornton, who then conducted an extensive lumber business on the site upon which the Neal House now stands. In 1866, Mr. Thornton dropped out of the firm and his interests were taken by Mr. Cook. This partnership existed for eight years, when he began speculating in eggs and shipping them to the city, which he continued for four years. In the summer of 1878, he began keeping hotel in the building sometimes called the Old Neal, but then known as the Ellington House. In the fall of 1884, he sold out his hotel interests, and in the following spring bought and moved onto a farm three-fourths of a mile north of Shelbyville, which he still owns and to which he added eighty acres in the fall of 1899.

In May of 1890, he returned to town and again engaged in the hotel business, purchasing the Neal House which he still owns.

Like many another of the "fathers," Mr. Cook passed through a good many struggles and reverses in the early days; but with indomitable will and courage he has met and surmounted the obstacles, won a comfortable competency for himself and family, and is still hale and hearty, giving credence to the expression that "man is not old at seventy."

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MEMORIAL—EDITH COOK.

"She is not dead—the child of our affection—
But gone unto that school
Where she no longer needs our poor protection,
And Christ himself doth rule.

"In that great cloister's stillness and seclusion,
By guardian angles led,
Safe from temptation, safe from sin's pollution,
She lives, whom we call dead.

"Day after day, we think what she is doing
In those bright realms of air;
Year after year, her tender steps pursuing
Behold her grown more fair.

"Thus do we walk with her, and keep unbroken
The bond which nature gives.
Thinking that our remembrance, though un-
spoken,
May reach her where she lives."

—Longfellow.

It is not a pleasure to write a memorial biography, but it becomes more nearly so when we are permitted to write about a person of such rare graces and beautiful character as were possessed by Miss Edith Cook, the subject of this memoir.

Miss Cook was the youngest daughter of George P. and Mary Cook, being born in Shelbyville in September, 1867. Her life was almost exclusively passed in her birthplace, where she was beloved by all who knew her as a happy-hearted, sweet-voiced girl. Her childhood and youth were characterized by a cheerful, sunny disposition, which won for Miss Edith a warm place in the hearts of her school-mates, teachers and friends. As she grew into womanhood, she developed a most pure and noble character. The promises of the maiden were fulfilled in the woman; and a bright though veiled future lay before her, when

Like a swift fleeting meteor, a flast flying cloud.

A flash of the lightning, a break of the wave,
She passed from this life to her rest in the grave.

At about seven o'clock in the evening of the 5th of August, 1897, Miss Cook ordered out her conveyance for a drive about the city. She was accompanied by Mrs. Lantz, a particular friend. After a ride of half an hour, or such a matter, the two returned and Mrs. Lantz alighted at her home. As Miss Edith turned to drive home, in some manner the horse, being a spirited one, was frightened and almost immediately became unmanageable. With frightful rapidity it ran in a homeward direction, and, at the intersection of South First and Washington streets, made a quick turn. Within a few feet of her own home, Miss Cook was thrown from the vehicle with terrible violence, her head striking the embankment of the street with crushing force. Tender hands quickly lifted the bruised and bleeding form and gently carried it to a room in the hotel. The skull was fractured, the right arm dislocated and the whole side was bruised and mangled. Every effort of the attending physicians to save the precious life was fruitless. Consciousness had taken its flight, nor did it return until the departure of the spirit at eleven o'clock in the evening. A beautiful life had gone out—a soul had returned to God.

On the following Sabbath, the funeral services, which were of a peculiarly pathetic character, in that the whole city mourned for her who had been loved by the young and the old alike, were held in the Presbyterian church, and all that was mortal of Miss Cook was tenderly laid away in the "silent city of the dead." Concerning these services, we quote from a newspaper clipping published the following day: "As the funeral party entered the church, where the de-

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ceased was wont to attend, the organ gave forth a solemn, mournful requiem, the casket was placed in a veritable bower of flowers and the quartet sang "Beyond the smiling and the weeping." Following the reading of the scripture and a prayer, Miss Maude Trower sang "One sweetly solemn thought," a mournful monody that brought tears to all eyes. It rended the heart, and we question if ever an audience more truly felt the truth of the closing lines: 'For I am nearer home today, perhaps than now I think.'

This glowing tribute was paid to the memory of Miss Edith by one who knew her well: "She was a ray of sunshine, always happy, bright and cheerful, and her sweet winsomeness and her joyous, tender, happy heart charmed all with whom she came in contact and cheered and brightened many a saddened and clouded life. Bright and witty, an excellent conversationalist and with a keen sense of humor she was the life of every gathering she graced with her presence. She was a friend of all; even the little lads of the street received her kindly smile. Beautiful of face and character in the life with us—thrice more beautiful in the life beyond."

But all our polished words and well-wrought sentences fail in faithfully portraying her lovely character. We mourn for her who is gone, but like balm to our wounded spirit come these comforting lines:

"Let us be patient! These severe afflictions
Not from the ground arise,
But oftentimes celestial benedictions
Assume this dark disguise.

"We see but dimly through the mists and
vapors;
Amid these earthly damps,
What seems to us but sad, funereal tapers
May be heaven's distant lamps.

"There is no death! What seems so is transition;
This life of mortal breath
Is but a suburb of the life elysian,
Whose portal we call death."

* * * *

ROBERT REEVE.

The best of all that we call American is of English birth or extraction. From the English we inherit our best blood, our noblest patriotism, our most splendid genius. The gentleman concerning whom we write this biography was brought by his widowed mother to Montreal, Canada, when he was scarcely six months of age. He was born near the city of Norwich, Eng., in A. D. 1834. The names of his parents were Benjamin and Hannah (Sherman) Reeve. After a short stay in Canada, Mrs. Reeve removed to Buffalo, New York, and in this city Robert spent his boyhood days. He worked at various odd jobs, in order to somewhat help in bearing the expense of his support, and received his only educational training in the city last named, before he was fourteen years of age. At this time in his life he began railroading, carrying water for a grayel train crew, on the Northwestern road. He gradually won the confidence of his superiors until he finally became a fireman and then an engineer. He made a phenomenal record on the Big Four line; on this road he fired a locomotive for seven years without losing a single day. He afterwards ran the engine which hauled the dirt for filling in the hollow, east of where the Shelbyville depot now stands, and which was previously spanned by a huge trestle-work.

In the year 1864, he began work for S. H. Webster & Co., and assisted them in the grain

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business. He continued with this firm till the year 1880. These long periods of service on the part of our subject are in striking contrast to the frequent changes made by many employes, and speaks well for his enterprise and faithfulness. Before quitting the employ of Mr. Webster, he erected the scales and stock yards, which are his present place of business. To give some idea of the volume of business transacted at these yards, we quote the following figures. In the year 1900, Mr. Reeve handled 158 car-loads of hogs for Mr. John Freyburger; the number of head being 111,083, and their aggregate weight 2,329,927 pounds. He also shipped:

Horses—67 cars—1370 head.

Cattle—7 cars—144 head.

Sheep—3 cars—419 head.

This makes a grand total of 279 car-loads and 113,016 animals. When we consider this vast amount of business we can see the place of responsibility and trust which Mr. Reeve occupies.

In 1860, Mr. Reeve was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Davis, a native of Ohio. To them have been born eight children, three of whom died in infancy. The names of the five living ones we subjoin in the order of their birth: Martha, John, Sarah, Thomas, Robert. Thomas is engaged with his father in conducting the stock-yards. Mr. Reeve is an ardent Republican in politics; he cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln when he was first a candidate for the presidency.

In business our subject is prompt and active. His success in many ways is notable. What he is and has is largely the result of his own effort. He has the reputation of being straight-forward and honest. His word is never discounted and he is respected by all. Both Mr. and Mrs. Reeve are members of the Moulton M. E. church.

COLONEL H. M. SCARBOROUGH.

He of whom we write this sketch was born in Hunterdon county, New Jersey, Sept. 4th, 1834. He is the second child of Isaac and Eliza (Case) Scarborough, and is of Scotch descent; these parents were devout members of the Presbyterian church. Hiram spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm, and there laid the foundations for a life of labor and success. His educational privileges were limited to those of the common schools of his native county.

At the age of seventeen he learned the carpenter's trade, and at the age of twenty-two, in June, 1856, he came to this city and continued working at his trade until he began clerking in the dry goods store of J. B. Vosburgh.

Mr. Scarborough is of a patriotic temperament, and his country's call for men was responded to by his volunteering for service in the 54th Illinois, November, 1861. He saw much active service: participating in the siege of Vicksburg, capture of Little Rock, Ark., and numerous skirmishes, etc.

His success as a soldier may be inferred from the fact that he held five commissions: Second Lieutenant, First Lieutenant, Captain, Major and Lieutenant Colonel. He distinguished himself in each of these positions as is evidenced by the fact of his continued promotions. He was not mustered out of service until Nov., 1865. We account it an honor to be acquainted with a man who saw four years of active campaign in the Civil war.

In Jan., 1866, Mr. Scarborough again took up the duties of private citizenship, and purchased a stock of dry goods in the room which he now occupies. The practical training of the farm and carpenter's bench, together with the exactness and discipline of military service have made

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him eminently successful in the mercantile line. It has been said in our hearing that at an earlier date, when Mr. Scarborough gave more of his personal attention to his store than he has done in these more recent years of business calls and cares, that he could have entered his store in the blackest midnight, and put his hand upon any desired article or piece of goods. His business has been increased until it embraces a large and well selected stock of general merchandise.

On the 12th day of September, 1871, Mr. Hiram Scarborough and Miss Isabel Middlesworth were united in marriage. The name "Middlesworth" is too well known to all persons in Shelby county to need any comment. The bride is the daughter of Abram, who is president of the First National bank. To Mr. and Mrs. Scarborough have been born four children. Three of these only lived a short time, passing to the upper home when childhood's morning was hardly begun. Charles, a bright and highly esteemed young man was born in this city June, 19th, 1877. He was graduated from the High school here, and spent one year in Hanover college; but at the end of this time, to the disappointment of his friends no less than himself, he was obliged through ill-health, to abandon his course, and is now seeking strength in the mountains of New Mexico.

When sixteen years of age, Mr. Scarborough united with the Baptist church, but on coming here, he found no church of that denomination, and, not being so great a sectarian that he could not worship with other believers, he affiliated himself with the Presbyterian church. It is not saying too much to state that he and his estimable wife are regarded as pillars in the church of our Lord Jesus.

In financial circles our subject has held such positions of responsibility and trust as the vice-

presidency of the First National bank and the Citizens' Loan association. In politics he is a staunch republican. He bears the reputation of being a public-spirited, honest, respected citizen. He is known by all, and each day greets scores of friends from his place of business, where he has been actively engaged for more than thirty-five years.

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LILLY AND DUNSCOMB.

The young gentlemen whose names head this biographical survey are the proprietors of the Windsor Gazette. The paper in question is a spicy, neat sheet, which weekly visits between eight and nine hundred of Shelby's homes. This paper which was established in 1878 is mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Hugh S. Lilly, son of Europe A. and Nancy (Wright) Lilly, natives of Kentucky, was born in Sullivan, Illinois, August 9th, 1866. Hugh's mother was the daughter of a captain in the Civil war and the granddaughter of a Revolutionary patriot.

Hugh was reared to the duties of a clerk in a book store, which was managed by his father, and early acquired a taste for literature. He was graduated from the Sullivan High school in 1883. In the summer of 1886 he began learning the printer's trade, working on the Sullivan Progress. Prior to this time he had frequently contributed articles to the local papers. For one year, under Cleveland's administration, he served as deputy postmaster in his native town, after which he accepted a lucrative position as book-keeper. His love for printing was deeply seated in his nature; and in Jan., 1891, he became the associate editor of the Sullivan News. In the winter of 1893 he was clerk of committees in

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state senate, and in the following summer was city reporter and labor editor of the St. Louis Daily Star-Sayings; he was agent when in St. Louis for several trade journals. In 1894 he formed the partnership with Mr. Dunscomb which resulted in the purchase of the paper aforementioned.

Mr. Lilly was united in marriage with Miss Mabel, daughter of Jacob and Sarepta (Walden) Smysor of Windsor. They are the parents of two boys who are the pride of their home.

Mr. Lilly is a member of the A. F. & A. M. lodge, of the Eastern Star, of the Modern Woodmen, and of the Modern Americans. He holds the position of president in the last named order, and is junior warden of the Royal Arch Masons at Sullivan. He is also devoted to the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a member, and in this organization has done good work as Sunday school superintendent, president of Epworth League, and teacher in the Sunday school. Mr. Lilly is a young man whose other excellencies are crowned with a deep devotion to his home.

Like his partner in business Mr. Dunscomb is a native of Moultrie county. He is the son of John H. and Jane (Mitchell) Dunscomb, and was born in A. D. 1869. His father was the editor of the Moultrie County News, and hence George spent many of his leisure boyhood hours in and about his father's office. He received his educational training in the High school at home, and in his father's printing establishment learned the art of practical printing. On the 15th day of May, 1895, he was married to Miss Rosa Baker, of Sullivan. They are the parents of two children: Joseph H. and George Baker. Mr. Dunscomb is a member of the F. & A. M. and the Modern Woodmen lodges.

We can state of these two young men: They are enterprising, interested in all that is good, courteous, and representative citizens. Their paper is non-partisan in politics, and is recognized as one of the leading sheets in the county. We predict for these young gentlemen a successful and increasingly bright future, and can only regret that there are not more young men who are worthy of equally honorable mention.

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NOAH A. TRIECE.

On the 28th of March, 1865, the home of Isaac and Katharine (Huffer) Triece was gladdened by the birth of the son whose name heads this sketch. The home thus gladdened was quickly turned to one of mourning, for the mother died when her babe was but one week old. How greatly the life of the child has been affected by the loss of his mother is wholly incalculable; there is but One who knows.

Noah was kindly reared by his aunt, Mrs. A. Dannenbarger, of this city. At the age of sixteen he began an apprenticeship with Mr. B. P. Dearing; prior to which, he had the educational advantages afforded by the city schools. When his majority was reached he was the master of a common school education and a good trade; a better record than is made by many who have care of parents, and are the pampered and petted children of wealth.

September 8th, 1886, Mr. Triece was united in marriage to Miss Anna, daughter of J. H. and Eliza Hite, of Shelbyville. They are the parents of three children: Grace, Harry and a little one who died in infancy.

On the first day of Jan., 1898, Mr. Triece severed his business relations with Mr. Dearing, for whom he had worked so long, and launched

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in a merchant tailoring business for himself. His venture is proving to be an increasing success. He is establishing a reputation for good work and honest dealing which is certain to fructify in material gain. The writer speaks of courteous, prompt, and Christian treatment as his own experience in dealing with this young man.

Both Mr. Triece and his wife are members of the Christian church, and are faithful and devoted to their religious duties; he is also a member of the order of the K. P. The parents of Mr. Triece were natives of Ohio, but he is a son of Shelby county; he was born and has ever lived within its bounds. We prophesy that those traits of character which have been the source of his success thus far, will eventually ripen into broader influence and greater achievements.

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JOEL L. HUDSON AND SON, ANDREW L.

The parents of Mr. J. L. Hudson, David and Sarah (Dotson), were natives of North Carolina, and came to this county on New Year's day, 1830. At this time Joel was three years of age. The journey was made by team, and the trip occupied a period of forty days. Like many another boy of that early day, he received but little training save in the school of life on the farm at home.

In the year, 1848, he was united in marriage to Miss Priscilla Dotson, and began farming upon land in Section 14, Shelbyville township. He suffered the loss of his girl-wife inside two years from the time of his marriage. He has since been twice married, viz: to Clarissa J. Valentine and Emma J. Lowry, respectively. He is the father of nineteen children. For a period of twenty-five years he lived upon a farm in Section 12, of the township before named, and which

farm he still owns. He has improved seven farms in the immediate vicinity where he now resides, and, before dividing among his children did own four hundred and sixty acres of good land. In early life he became identified with the Separate Baptist church, and to this day is a devout believer in the Nazarene. His polities have ever been of the democratic persuasion. His life has been a success, and now in the failing strength of his declining years he holds the respect of those who have known him.

Andrew L. was born October 27th, 1855; his mother being the second wife of his father. He was reared as a farm-lad, and like his father had but little chance for school-training. In the year 1877 he became the husband of Miss Virginia Wilhelm of his native township. They are the parents of eight children, all of whom are living. In addition to his farm business, Mr. Hudson has been connected with a grain and merchandise business at Middlesworth, and has also done a large amount of threshing. He has been honored by being chosen, for eight consecutive years, supervisor of his township, and during the present term is chairman of the board. Mr. Hudson has the reputation of being a man with good common sense; he is an excellent judge of stock, and has a thorough knowledge of grain of all kinds. As a business man he is a success, and he bears a name which in all the county is the synonym of reliability and honesty. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and like his father has been a life-long democrat.

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WILLIAM O. WALLACE.

The subject of this sketch is a son of Shelby county, being born here in the year 1856. His father, John H. was a native of Kentucky, and



DR. GEORGE S. BOLT.



DR. THOMAS L. CATHERWOOD.

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his mother, Martha (Clark), was indigenous of Illinois. Mr. Wallace spent his boyhood and youth upon the farm, and there became familiar with those trials of labor and frugality which have won for him success in these more recent years. From the common schools at home, he went to the Lees Academy at Knoxville, and from there to the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. He used the medium of school teaching to assist in financing his educational plans, and began as a country pedagogue, when but sixteen years of age. So stringent were his financial resources that when he reached the city of Shelbyville, after his graduation in the year 1884, he had but thirty-five cents in his pocket.

It was in the city named and at the time aforesaid that he entered upon his chosen profession of law. In the line of his profession he has not been without honors, for he has been city attorney for a period of four years, and also state's attorney for eight consecutive years.

In the year 1888, Mr. Wallace was united in marriage to Miss May, daughter of G. W. and Margaret Bolinger. Three children have been born of this union: Lew, Margaret, and William O. The many excellencies of Mrs. Wallace, both as a maiden and a mother, have been frequently mentioned in the writer's hearing, and it is with genuine delight we refer to the home-life of a busy man as a scene of domestic felicity and beauty. It is a current mistake to think only of the achievements of men, and forgot the ruling power of "the hand that rocks the cradle."

Mr. Wallace is a member of the F. & A. M. and Knight Templar lodges. In politics he is a democrat, though not an intense or bitter partisan. Success in a business way is the result of his enterprise; he, at the present time, being the owner of nearly two thousand acres of land. We learn that he is a man of public spirit, and have

found him kindly and courteously interested in the affairs of the county. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wallace are members of the First M. E. church.

* * * *

DR. THOMAS L. CATHERWOOD.

Prominent among the leading and best-known physicians in Shelby county, is Thomas L. Catherwood. The doctor's father was a native of Ireland, and came to America with his parents when but a mere lad. His name was Thomas K. The doctor's mother was Margaret (Smith) Catherwood, a native of Virginia; she lived to be 94 years of age. At the time our subject was born, which occurred on the 5th day of July, 1827, his parents were residents of Abingdon, Va., but in the year 1829, they emigrated to Carlisle, Ind. He spent his boyhood days in the common school and about his father's shop—his father was a saddler and collar-maker. At the age of sixteen years he entered the office of Doctors Murphy and Helms in his resident town, having at this early age determined to make medicine his life-study. For four years he was identified with this office, but during two school years of this period he attended the state university at Bloomington, Ind. In this institution he pursued a scientific course, and read medicine between the semesters. After leaving the office of the doctors afore named, he attended medical lectures in Louisville, Ky., and, finally on the 13th day of April, 1847, began the practice of his profession at Middletown, Vigo county, Indiana. In this year the doctor was wedded to Miss Mary Akin, of Carlisle, Ind. Two children were born of this union—one of these died in infancy, and the other, widow of the well-known Dr. A. P. Hoxsey, is a resident of the city of Shelbyville. This girl-wife of the doctor's died in the year

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1851. Three years after this sad event, viz., in June, 1854, he moved to Moweaqua, Shelby county, Illinois, and entered upon his professional duties. On the 3rd of September, 1856, he was married to Miss Carrie J. Hardy, of Bloomington, Ill., and this couple are the parents of four children: Ada, the wife of Thomas J. Steidley, of Ridge township; Harriet B., Mrs. Enos Scarborough, of Shelbyville; and Frank and George, who died in young manhood. For five years during the doctor's stay in Moweaqua, he owned and managed a farm in the vicinity of that town; and during his residence in this same place his thirst for knowledge led him to matriculation with the Miami Medical college, at Cincinnati, O., from which institution he was graduated in the year 1870. In April of 1876, he came to this city where ever since he has made his home. Doctor Catherwood was not a soldier, but was a witness of the bloody struggle at Pittsburg Landing, he being there on private business; his only real taste of war was lending aid in caring for the wounded and dying during and after this engagement. For three years, 1858 — 1861, he was postmaster in his home village. During his residence here, he was for four years surgeon for the Big Four, and under Cleveland's last administration, was on the pension board. He is a member of the Shelby County, Central Illinois, and State Medical societies, and also of the F. & A. M., the K. P., I. O. O. F., K. of H., and A. O. U. W. lodges. In politics the doctor has been a life-long democrat, but with strong prohibition proclivities. Both himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian church. He is the owner of a large and well selected library and of a comfortable home in the north central part of the city. As a practitioner his skill is undisputed, and his judgment reliable. His practice has been large and long, and thousands in this

county have looked upon him as their family physician. As a gentleman, we find him courteous, affable, well-informed; an up-to-date man who has grown old in body only.

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JAMES A. BABB.

The gentleman of whom we now write is known throughout the county as the old and reliable photographer of Shelbyville. He was born May 8th, 1855, in Osage county, Missouri. His father and mother were B. F. and Visa (Harper) Babb; she died in 1874 in Barkersville, Mo. In 1879, Mr. Babb left his native state and came to Sullivan, Moultrie county, Illinois. At this place he engaged in photography, and after a period of four years removed to Jefferson City, continuing in the same employment. In 1881, he came to Shelbyville, and on the last day of August, this same year, was united in marriage to Miss Mary E., daughter of Abram and Mary Oliver. Mr. Oliver is now, in his declining years, kindly furnished a home with Mr. Babb. Mrs. Oliver deceased in 1891, was the first white girl born in Shelby county.

Mr. and Mrs. Babb are the parents of six children, two of whom died in childhood. The other four are: Tony O., now with a wholesale photographer in St. Louis; Edith M., wife of William Lumpp; Pearl A.; Flossie K.; and Margery L.

Mr. Babb is a member of the Board of Education; a charter member of the K. P., Redmen and Woodmen lodges in this city. His entire family are members of the First M. E. church. In his chosen line of work Mr. Babb is a success. The photos for making many of the plates which adorn this book were made in his gallery, and it is with pleasure we refer to his excellent workmanship and prompt, gentlemanly treatment.

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DOCTOR W. J. EDDY.

Favorably known among the best practitioners of Shelby county, is W. J. Eddy. His rank among the best is adjudged because of his wide practice, his success in the treatment of disease, and his frequent calls in consultation with other physicians. His birthplace is the city of Shelbyville, and it was here, on the 13th of October, 1857, he was born into the world. His father, for whom the doctor is named, was a native of Cork, Ireland. He was born in 1830, and coming to this country in the year 1848, engaged in shoe-making. His mother was Miss Mary J. Roberts, of Cornwall, England; she was born in 1832, and came here in the year 1843. Thus it will appear that the doctor's veins are filled with genuine Celtic blood. His parents died in the years 1889 and 1865, respectively. The doctor was the second of four children: Mary H., who is the wife of Rev. A. H. Rusk, pastor of the M. E. church at Davis City, Iowa; W. J., of whom we write; John R., deceased in 1899, leaving a wife and two children; and J. H., who is a physician in Decatur, Illinois. By a second marriage to Rachel Barrett Mr. Eddy became the father of one daughter and three sons: Valma E., who is a resident of this county; R. T., who is mentioned in our chapter on the "Bar;" Orland, a dentist in Decatur, and who is the husband of Blanch Alloop; and Dowling, a lawyer by profession, but who is now in the Klondike.

Since the doctor was twelve years of age he has known how to provide for himself. His was a boyhood of work. He worked on a farm, learned the trade followed by his father, and when old enough, and far enough advanced, began teaching school. He was finally able to attend school at Valparaiso, Ind., and subsequently at the State Normal University, Carbondale, Ill. After deciding to make medicine his study, he

attended the Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons, and was graduated from this institution in 1885. Since that time he has taken three post-graduate courses: A course in Ophthalmology in Chicago; a course in Polyclinics in Chicago, and a course in Electro Therapeutics in Indianapolis. These special courses, in addition to the regular work required for the M. D. degree, have fitted the doctor for the place of eminence which he now fills.

In 1888, on the 19th day of September, he was united in marriage to Miss Carrie V., daughter of Dr. N. F. Chafee, of Shelbyville. Miss Chafee was an accomplished young lady who had taught for several years in the city schools. To this couple have been born three children: Hazel, October 5th, 1891; William Chafee, July 27th, 1895; Mary Josephine, September 9th, 1900.

The doctor is a member of the F. & A. M., Knight Templar, and K. of P. lodges. In politics he has ever been an out-spoken republican, though never a bitter partisan.

He is a courteous, accomplished, Christian gentleman. As a citizen he is respected; as a practitioner he is reliable, having a complete library and office appliances of great value. The latter includes a Static machine for general electrical appliances, and X-Ray work; indeed, nothing is spared which enables a man to find out and master diseases; as a husband and father he has no greater joy than in the bosom of his family, and there he may ever be found when not on professional duty. He is an official member of the First M. E. church, and his church fellowship is shared by his estimable wife. Theirs is a Christian home, a noble work, and we have yet to learn where the circle of their friendship is narrowed by aught save the limit of their acquaintanceship.

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JUDGE THOMAS H. RIGHTER.

In writing the genealogical and biographical sketch of the one whose name heads this article, we are gratified that data is furnished us which enables us to begin with the great great grandfather. Very few of those who read this review have any material proof that the Darwinian theory of our ancestry may not be the right one, and that such uncanny relatives do not belong to their family, not three generations in the past.

In the study of the Righter family we shall find that the name has been changed in its spelling, as is true of so many others. These changes may have been for convenience sake, or, as is more frequently the case, for euphonious reasons.

In the middle of the eighteenth century, one, John Reichter by name settled as a pioneer in the Keystone state. He was a native of Germany and in that country had taken for a wife Miss Katharina Baker. This couple were the parents of five children; three of the sons were given to the patriot cause, and served under Washington in the Revolutionary war. These three were: John, Jacob and Peter; the names of the other two children were Abraham and Hannah.

John, after the war, was married to Miss Martha Franklin, the great grandmother of our subject. These were the parents of the following named children: Abraham, John, Jacob, Mariah, and Peter. This last named one, the grandfather of the judge, moved to Kentucky in the year 1800, thus becoming one of the early settlers of that commonwealth. At this point, one thread in our genealogical line is broken. The name of Peter's bride is unknown, but the name of his children follow: George, Grove, Peter, and Mary.

The first named of these, G. Grove, the father of the judge, was born in Kentucky in the

year 1806. At the age of twenty-four he was united in marriage to Miss Salome Kilbourne; the ceremony took place in Hamilton county, Ohio, whither he had then removed. He afterward emigrated to Shelby county, Indiana, and died there about the time the Civil war began. Of this marriage, twelve sons and two daughters were born. The daughters and four sons are deceased.

T. H. Righter, the youngest of these fourteen children, was born near Morristown, Ind., Nov. 21st, 1860. He has no recollection of his parents, they having died while he was yet an infant. He was reared by his sister Katherine and his brother Q. C. Righter. After the judge was thirteen years of age, he worked upon a farm during the summer season, and attended school during the winter. This he continued until he began teaching in the year 1880. This was, indeed, a rugged ladder to climb, but over similarly rough rounds have men climbed to the loftiest attitudes of human achievement.

After teaching for some time, he was able to attend school at Lebanon, Ohio, and at Valparaiso, Ind. He read law with Judge Truman E. Anes, and also with Hon. H. J. Hamlin, attorney general. In 1893 he was admitted to the bar, and immediately began the practice of law in this city.

On the first day of January, 1894, he was united in wedlock to Miss Laura E. York, an accomplished young lady who was a teacher in the city schools. One child has blessed this union—Gertrude Salome, who was born November 9th, 1899.

"Ah! what would the world be to us
If the children were no more?
We should dread the desert behind us
Worse than the dark before.



JOHN W. YANTIS.

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What the leaves are to the forest,
With light and air and food,
Ere their sweet and tender juices
Have hardened into wood—
That to the world are children;
Through them it feels the glow
Of a bright and sunnier climate
Than reaches the trunks below.
Children are better than ballads
That were ever sung or said;
For they are living poems,
And all the rest are dead."

In 1898 Mr. Righter was honored by being chosen County Judge. As an official, we have yet to hear one of his decisions criticised.

He is courteous, affable and approachable. He is a self-made man who is not too greatly impressed with the importance of the man who made him. We account it a pleasure to know him, and speak sincere words concerning the esteem in which he and his estimable wife are held by the entire community.

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JOHN W. YANTIS.

John W. Yantis is a name familiar throughout Illinois. He has been, during recent years, the almost constant sharer of public honors. For four years he served as supervisor of his township (Shelbyville), being at that time the youngest man ever chosen for the position. During two of these years, he was chairman of the board. At the expiration of this term of service, he was again tendered the nomination for the same position, but declined, as he was chosen as a member of the State Board of Equalization. After serving his district in this capacity, he received appointment from Governor Altgeld as secretary of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission. While serving on this board, he repre-

sented this commonwealth before the national meeting of the Railroad Commissioners with the Interstate Commerce Commission, which convened in the city of Washington. Mr. Yantis has ever been identified with the interests of the local democracy, and, in the campaign just passed, further honors were bestowed upon him. He was re-elected to a membership in the State Board of Equalization. In one congressional campaign he was unanimously recommended by this county for a seat in Congress, and only lacked one vote of securing the nomination. Mr. Yantis is a true son of the county, having been born within its bounds May 13th, 1855. His father, Daniel, was a native of Maryland, but emigrated with his parents to Ohio when he was four years of age. His (John's) mother was Elizabeth Longenbaugh, a native of Ohio. This couple came to Illinois in 1853. John is the youngest of fifteen children, and was reared upon his father's farm in the northwestern part of the county. At the age of nineteen, he entered the college at Westfield, Illinois; afterwards, he spent one term in the college instituted in Shelbyville under the firm name of Wilson & Hulhurst. During the time spent in this institution he worked, Saturdays, mornings, etc., as clerk for Kleeman & Goldstein. Afterward, Mr. Yantis entered the Bryant & Stratton college in Chicago, and was graduated in a business and commercial law course in the year 1876. In this same year, he was married to Miss Tracy J. James, a native of this county. To this couple were born two children—Mabel, now Mrs. Charles Neher, of this city; and Juanita, an accomplished young lady who was graduated from the High school in 1900. In 1881 Mr. Yantis suffered the loss of his wife. He was subsequently married to a sister of his former wife, Miss Cordelia James. Two children bless this union—

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Inez, who completes her high school course this present year, and Ambrey Leon.

For a period of thirteen years, beginning with February, 1878, Mr. Yantis conducted a general merchandise business in this city, having for a partner Mr. J. A. James. After the dissolution of this partnership he opened a real estate and loan office. He is a member of the following organizations: A. O. U. W., I. O. O. F., F. & A. M., K. T., K. P., Eastern Star, Modern Woodmen, Rebeccas and Modern Americans. Two of these organizations he has served in a conspicuous manner, having acted as Department Grand Master for Illinois in the Odd Fellows' order, and for two years as Grand Master in the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He has also represented local interests in the supreme meeting of this organization. Mr. Yantis and his entire family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is on the official board of this organization. He lives in a beautiful home of his own, situated about one block from the court house. Mr. Yantis is a gentleman. He seems to have the happy faculty of serving the people in a public capacity, without making enemies or reflecting discredit upon himself. He also seems to have escaped unscathed those repulsive habits which so often affix themselves to our public men. He is courteous and affable, and we think it but fair to predict these successes of his earlier life are but the earnest of more splendid achievements yet to come.

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ATTORNEY GENERAL, H. J. HAMLIN.

"Howland J. Hamlin was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, on the 13th day of July, 1850. He was educated in the district schools,

and at Lawrenceville Academy, at Lawrenceville, N. Y., and finished his education at the State Normal University at Potsdam, N. Y. He came to Illinois in 1870 and was engaged in teaching in the public schools in Shelby and Moultrie counties for some time. He was Superintendent of the Public Schools at Windsor, Illinois. He read law with Judge Anthony Thornton, Ex-Judge of the Supreme Court of Illinois, and George R. Wendling. He was admitted to practice at the Supreme Court in June, 1875. He at once entered into partnership with Judge Thornton and George R. Wendling, which partnership continued until Mr. Wendling retired from the firm and entered the lecture field. The firm then became Thornton & Hamlin, and the partnership existed for several years, until Judge Thornton removed to Decatur, Illinois, when Mr. Hamlin became the head of the present firm, Hamlin & Kelley. Mr. Hamlin has been one of the most prominent lawyers in Central Illinois for several years. He has prosecuted and defended some of the most noted criminal cases tried in the State. He has been actively engaged in the practice of his profession in nearly all of the counties of Central Illinois, and many in Southern Illinois. He has also had quite an extensive practice in Chicago. He is considered among the most successful lawyers at the bar in the state. He is known to be a man of the highest integrity and his reputation as a lawyer is without blot or blemish. He has been prominent in Republican polities for a long time. Has served upon the State Central Committee for several years. He was a delegate to the National Convention that nominated Mr. McKinley. He was Chairman of the last Republican State Convention and in his speech made before that convention outlined the policy that should be pursued with regard to the questions of expansion.

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In speaking of the argument made by Mr. Hamlin on that occasion, the *Inter-Ocean* said as follows:

"The great speech of the Republican Convention at Springfield in 1900 was made by Judge Hamlin. As permanent chairman he was delegated, in a measure, to speak for the party in Illinois, and he spoke in no uncertain tones. He recalled the campaign of 1896 by a clear statement of issues that he might more clearly show that the republican party had redeemed its pledges. The platform of 1896 promised the prompt passage of a new tariff act, and a return of prosperity under the republican policy. The Dingley bill was passed, and in ten months the excess of exports over imports was \$500,000,000: the exports of goods manufactured in America exceeded the imports of goods manufactured in foreign countries by over \$4,000,000, and everywhere there was greater industrial activity and increased prices for American products. This was putting the case in a nutshell to illustrate the results of a return to republican policy.

"Mr. Hamlin treated state affairs with the same definiteness, showing the slovenly incompetency and dishonesty of the Altgeld administration in contrast with the thorough-going business methods of the Tanner administration. He swept over the record in a way to make plain facts and figures pay a finer tribute to Governor Tanner than words of warmest eulogy. Starting with the statement that Governor Fifer at the close of his administration turned over to the Altgeld administration a cash balance of \$2,500,000 in the treasury; and at the beginning of his first fiscal year Governor Tanner found a deficit of \$2,000,000. Mr. Hamlin showed what energy, honesty, and economy in administration had accomplished under Governor Tanner. Never did national or state administration have in any

republican convention more telling and striking points made in its favor than Mr. Hamlin presented in his speech. There was not much generalization; there were no common-places or platitudes; but swift blows that rang when they struck home, to rouse the spirit of stalwart republicans.

"The most significant of all Mr. Hamlin's utterances was that referring to the war policy of the administration. Others had spoken of the limitations imposed on the government waging a war of humanity, but Mr. Hamlin outlined a policy that "would strike the last vestige of Spanish treachery and cruelty from the Western hemisphere," and that would mark a new epoch in the history of this country. When he spoke of Commodore Dewey's raising the stars and stripes in the Philippine Islands, there to stay, the convention went wild with enthusiasm. No other utterance of the day met with prompter and heartier approval, and no plank in the platform was more enthusiastically applauded than that declaring the United States should hold such conquered territory as would be advantageous to its interests in time of war and peace. On the same day W. J. Bryan, speaking at Omaha, declared against retaining Puerto Rico or the Philippines. Time will show whether he spoke for his party or not, but no one can doubt where the republicans of Illinois stand on the question."

"In 1896, when the Free Silver craze swept over the state, Mr. Hamlin was called upon by the Congressional Committee of the Eighteenth District to speak in each county in the district. He spoke at Vandalia, Illinois, early in July and the speech made there was made into a campaign document, and was circulated throughout the district. It was pronounced a complete answer to the Free Silver and Free Trade arguments advanced by his opponents. He is regarded as one

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of the ablest campaign speakers in the state, and no name that has yet been mentioned for any office on the state ticket would add more strength to the ticket than that of Mr. Hamlin. Shelby county has never before asked for a state office."

The above epitome of Mr. Hamlin's life is taken from the Shelbyville Weekly Union. In addition to this we make mention of his election, by an overwhelming majority, to the Attorney Generalship of Illinois; the foregoing article was published during the campaign.

Mr. Hamlin was united in marriage to Miss Ella M. York, of Windsor, June 8th, 1876. The bride was the daughter of Dr. Eli York, one of the oldest physicians in his township, but deceased some years since. After the death of her mother, Miss York, then but a child, was taken into the home of Dr. Jesse York, one of Illinois' most famous physicians, where she was reared to womanhood. Mrs. Hamlin is a bright, vivacious woman who is the centre of a wide social circle. To this couple five children have been born. We subjoin the family record: Howard B., born Dec. 1877; Agnes Y., born Nov. 1879; H. J. Jr., born Dec. 1884; Jesse Y., born Dec. 1887; Mary B., born June 1890. The last named died in infancy; Jesse is in school here in Shelbyville; H. J. is completing his course in the Western Military Academy at Alton, Illinois; Agnes, a graduate of the Georgetown University, Washington, D. C., is at home. She is possessed of a rich and cultured voice, and, through her womanly graces and acquired ability, takes a prominent place among the young people of the city; Howard is engaged in business in Chicago. The Hamlin residence is on North Broadway, and is a recognized centre of hospitality and royal entertainment. Few men carry public honors with more grace than Mr. Hamlin. He is bound to be a people's man. He

is never too busy, and never too conceited to speak to an acquaintance, no matter how poor or lowly that acquaintance may be. We hear the sentiment voiced almost daily, "Mr. Hamlin will be Governor of Illinois some day." Because of our personal acquaintanceship with the man, because we know his worth, because we believe in his fairness, ability and manhood, we unite in swelling this sentiment.

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HON GEO. R. GRAYBILL.

Known especially in press and political circles throughout the entire county is the name Geo. R. Graybill. He was born near Lancaster, Ohio; the date of his birth being Jan. 30th, 1854. When he was but two years of age, his parents, Samuel R. and Sarah (Carlisle) Graybill, emigrated to this state. His childhood was spent upon his father's farm in the southern portion of this county. Like other farm-lads he knew the meaning of toil, and the value of a dollar earned by manual labor. His parents resided in this county until their death, which occurred in 1896 and 1872, respectively. George attended the common school in the country district of his home, and afterward matriculated with the University of Illinois. He was also under private tutorship in the city of Chicago, thus completing a first-class education.

During his youth and young manhood, he was able to finance his educational plans by clerking in a store and by teaching school. In August, 1885 he took charge of the Shelbyville Democrat, a paper mentioned elsewhere in this volume, and has since continued as its editor. In the year 1888, on the 18th day of January Mr. George Graybill and Miss Etta M. Laughlin, of Shelby county were united in marriage. The

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bride is the daughter of James and Henrietta (Murphy) Laughlin. She was educated at the Dixon college, and is an accomplished lady who takes delight in domestic, literary, musical and Sunday school work. To this couple have been born five children, the first of which died at birth. The others whose names and birthdays follow, are: Fay Laughlin, April 16, 1890; Clara May, July 25, 1892; Leo Carlisle, July 23, 1894; Henrietta Sarah, Nov. 22, 1896.

In 1898 Mr. Graybill received public honor in being elected member of the Illinois Assembly. His interest in educational affairs gave him a place upon the City Board of Education for six years. We have found Mr. Graybill a courteous, kindly-disposed, public-spirited man. He is well informed upon general topics of interest and all matters of the day. His versatility is of wide scope; his opinions are firm, and the circle of his influence and friendship is great. In the social life of the city Mr. Graybill and wife figure prominently. Their residence is upon a bold bluff overlooking the river, and here, we are told, a busy man finds his greatest enjoyment in the bosom of his family. It is saying none too much and none too little to state that he ranks among the first citizens of the city and county.

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L. ROBERT PAUSCHERT.

The parents of the gentleman whose name heads this sketch were born in Germany, and came to this country before their marriage. The names of the parents are Fred A. and Elizabeth (Schneider) Pauschert. The father came to this city at an early date and has long since been recognized among the substantial, business citizens. The faithful and devoted mother died when Robert was but a mere lad.

He was born into this world in the city of St. Louis, March 21st, 1858, and he recalls no other home. His education was received here in the city schools. At an early period in his life he began assisting his father about the store, and has really made the mercantile business his life work.

On the 21st day of September, 1882, he was united in marriage to Miss Kate daughter of Jacob F. Maurer, of Rural township. This couple are the parents of four children, one of whom died at the beginning of life's day. The remaining three are: Miss Barbara, now in the high school, and Henry and Cora.

In the year 1888, Mr. Pauschert took possession of the store in Moulton, which he has since conducted in his own name. We noticed a large stock of general merchandise, and learn that he conducts a lucrative and successful business. His fitness for positions of responsibility and public weal may be inferred from the fact that for nine consecutive years he has been a member of the Board of Education; has also been City Treasurer, and Alderman. The entire family are devoted members of the Lutheran church, and are held in high esteem by all their friends. Mr. Pauschert is a very pleasant and affable man, and for honesty and integrity there are none who rank higher. His place in the hearts of his town's folk will be increasingly large.

* * * *

JACOB H. EPLER.

He whose name heads this sketch, was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, September 21st, 1844. His parents, Abraham and Mary (Singer) Epler, were natives of the Keystone state, but they emigrated to Indiana when Jacob

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was but two and one-half years old. The place where they settled was within the present corporate limits of the city of Indianapolis. The boyhood of our subject was not unlike that of other farmer boys of those days. Mr. Epler has no recollection of his mother, she having died when he was but three years old. This unspeakable loss no man can estimate, and it is difficult to conjecture how greatly, or in what manner, this sad circumstance may have affected the life of him whose biography we now write.

Mr. Epler had a genuinely religious training. His father was a member of the German Evangelical church, and Jacob was trained in the simple and earnest faith of this sect. His only educational advantages were those of the common school. The death of Mr. Epler, Sr., occurred when Jacob was but fourteen years of age. After the death of his father Jacob went to the home of an uncle at Peru, Ind., where he worked upon a farm for the period of one year. He then returned to the old home-farm, where he labored until his enlistment for service in the Civil war, which occurred on the first day of August, 1861. He united with the 11th Ind. Vol. Infantry.

The service of Mr. Epler was paralleled but by few. He was at the capture of forts Henry and Donelson, and participated in the battles of Shiloh and Corinth, Miss. From the latter named place his regiment was sent down to take Memphis, but was too late to participate in the engagement. He next took part in the battle of Port Gibson, and was also in the struggles at Baker's Creek, Raymond, and Champion Hill. The "Siege of Vicksburg" will ever be fresh in his mind. For forty-seven days he was under fire. Grant had said, "I'll stay till I take the city, if it takes me thirty years," and throughout this most famous siege, our subject was a constant actor. From Vicksburg, he went to Jackson,

Miss., assisting in its recapture. Thence he passed down the river to New Orleans, and from there to the western part of Louisiana, and the eastern borders of Texas where some sharp skirmishing took place.

Having returned to New Orleans, Mr. Epler re-enlisted in the service of his country, but this time as a veteran; Dec. 23rd, 1863, being the date. In the following March, he obtained a furlough and visited his friends at home. It was while home on this furlough that Mr. Epler first had trouble with his eyes. After the expiration of his furlough, he returned to New Orleans, and in a very short time was transferred to the department of the Shenandoah. He then took part in the battle of Halltown, and the battle of Winchester, which engagement proved to be his last. In this battle he was shot through the right knee, and laid where he fell, cold, wet, and blood-soaked, all through the night. In the morning he was picked up, and carried to a field hospital; from thence he was sent to the Saterlee hospital, Philadelphia. He was kept a close patient in this institution for the period of six months, at the end of which time he was discharged, being, then, totally blind. That one terrible night on the battle-field further weakened the failing eyes of our hero, and resulted in their total destruction; but by loss of limbs and eyes and lives was the Union saved. Who shall say the price was too great? Such a claim is never made by those who endured the hardship and suffering.

Mr. Epler was engaged in the grocery business, after the war, until he came with a brother-in-law to the state of Illinois, in the fall of 1867. The gentleman in question, settled on a farm in Douglas county, and shortly thereafter died. Our subject then conducted the farm and stock-raising business of his widowed sister during a

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period of thirteen years. It was during this interval that he was converted to God. His conversion was a clear and radical one, and he at once sought and found membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, of which denomination he has ever remained an active and devoted communicant. After his conversion he became intimately associated and acquainted with Rev. A. L. Plowman, a young preacher who was fitting himself for the itinerant ministry. Mr. Epler's thirst for knowledge was great; and he persuaded Mr. Plowman to allow him to join with him in the pursuit of his studies; this was agreed to, Plowman, of course, furnishing eyes for both. They thus worked in study together for four years.

Our subject has an excellent memory, and no mean knowledge of the Word of God and the doctrines and tenets of the church. He has found opportunity to use his talent in supplying the Toledo, Greenup, and Marshall circuits, each for one year. His labors in the evangelistic line have been abundant through his ministry, souls in large numbers have been "born again."

On the 10th day of April, 1884, the wedding bells rang for Jacob H. Epler, and Miss Mollie V., daughter of James H. and Margaret (Crockett) Johnston. The grandfather of the bride was one of Shelby county's first pioneers; while her mother was of the Davey Crockett, and also of the Gen. Thornton line. Four children were born of this marriage: Beulah and Helen K., who died in infancy; and Grace Eddy and Lloyd Johnston.

The failure of Mrs. Epler's health caused her to be in the south for two years; her husband was with her one of these years, viz., in 1891. This couple are highly respected in the city where they now reside. When the new and handsome Methodist church was built, Mr. Epler

inaugurated the movement which resulted in the placing of the large memorial G. A. R. window in the south front. In politics he has ever been a republican, and like nearly all who wore the blue, he is very firm in his political beliefs.

His life-work has been performed under great difficulties, but he has wrought well. We cannot say he is blind, for he sees "great light." He is journeying to the land of perfect day; and the day of his death will be to him the morning of the rising of the sun.

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DR. JESSE A. BOWMAN.

The unquestioned leader among the dentists of Shelby county is the one whose name heads this sketch. In the year 1891, he originated the painless method of extracting and filling teeth, which he has since practiced; this, with courteous, gentlemanly manners, has exalted him to the first rank. He was born near Rockport, Illinois, Dec. 27th, 1863; and after the death of his father and mother (McEwen by name) was adopted into the home of Dr. Jas. Bowman of this city. By his foster parents, he was reared as carefully as though he had been their own son. After his graduation from the Indianapolis Dental college in 1884, he formed a partnership with his adoptive father, which was broken by the death of the latter in A. D. 1885. Since the date just mentioned Jesse has conducted the business alone, and with a constantly increasing success and widening practice. He is gifted in the musical line, and has done efficient work in a quartet well known throughout Illinois.

He is the manager of two branch dental offices, located at Pana and Mattoon, respectively.

His marriage with Miss Anna, daughter of

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Charles Reiss, of Shelbyville, was solemnized on the 30th day of June, 1886. Four children have been born of this union: Fred Homer, Oct. 2nd, 1887; Carl Randolph, Feb. 14th, 1889; George Arthur, May 29th, 1890; Floy Elisabeth, Nov. 30th, 1891.

This family circle is well received in the best social life of the city. The doctor is Past Chancellor of the K. P. lodge, is also a Mason (Capt. of the Host), and County Chancellor of the Court of Honor. Both himself and wife are members of the Lutheran church. The future evidently holds in store for the doctor an important place in the financial, as well as social and professional life of the county.

PIERCY COOPER.

The fact that "blood is thicker than water" has few more striking proofs than is found in the manner in which we regard those citizens of our country who are of English birth. We regard and class as "immigrants" those who come to us from all other lands, but those who come from our Mother Country we more frequently style "Our English Cousins." We are too proud of blood which is of Anglo-Saxon mixture to refer to England's sons and daughters who come to our shores in that vulgar sounding term "immigrant." Piercy Cooper was born in Fimber, Yorkshire, Eng., Dec. 12th, 1854. His parents were Mason and Jane (Holtby) Cooper, and belonged to the country-folk of their shire. They lived in a country village in the simple manner common to English rural life. Here our subject was reared; here he learned his first lessons in life.

Unfortunately for him, his boyhood was at a period prior to the time when the law made a certain amount of schooling compulsory; hence

he acquired almost no educational training in youth. When eighteen years of age, he entered the government service and acted on the constabulary force of Yorkshire for a period of seven years. In 1875 he was married to Miss Jane, daughter of Thomas and Lois Wilson. The ceremony was solemnized in Walkington, Eng. The only child born to this couple was William B., who died at the age of three and one-half years; his little grave is in the home-land beyond the sea, but the memory of the babe-life, which these parents enjoyed for so brief a time, lingers in their hearts with as beautifying a touch as the after-glow cast by the setting sun upon the dark clouds. Mr. Cooper and wife came to Champaign county in the year 1880, and engaged in farming. Here they purchased a farm, after a two year's sojourn on rented property, which farm they still own.

In 1885 Mr. Cooper moved within the bounds of Shelby county, where he has since resided, in the interests of the Sidell Grain and Elevator company; his present residence is on West Main street, Shelbyville. From his office here he has oversight of the company's interests at Clarksburg and Middlesworth. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper set many childless homes a worthy example in formally adopting in his infancy one who is now named Homer Hunt Cooper. Homer could not have been reared more tenderly; his needs are all anticipated and supplied. He is a bright boy of thirteen years who is now in his first year in the High school. In March of 1900, he had the pleasure of visiting England with his parents; many excellent photos, which denote skill in amateur photography are now treasured by the family; these are the product of Homer's kodak. We learn that this youth has the further promise of an extended trip through Europe when he shall have finished his course in school.

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In the visit before mentioned, Mr. and Mrs. Cooper were permitted to see his mother and her (Mrs. Cooper's) father, besides numerous other relatives and old-time acquaintances. The entire family are members of the M. E. church and are devoted to the same. Wherever they have lived Mr. Cooper has made use of his musical talent by singing in the church choir, and it is of rare occurrence for him to miss a Lord's day service. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M. lodge, and in politics is a staunch prohibitionist; he became naturalized at the earliest possible moment, and what we deem far better, completely Americanized. The educational dearth of his early days, has been in part repaired by night school work in this country and by an insatiate desire to learn. At present we find him a fairly well-informed, genial, substantial, respected citizen whom we account it a pleasure to know.

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ALFRED S. WILLIAMS.

Alfred S., son of Paul and Lydia (Miller) Williams, was born in the city of Philadelphia on the 23rd day of January, 1839. He suffered the loss of his father at an early age, and thus became largely dependent upon his own efforts. He received a common school education in his native city, and when fourteen years of age went to Carlisle barracks with Captain A. Burford. He thus formed a taste for military service which a few years later gave to our country a valiant defender. At the time the war broke out he was again in Philadelphia, but he went to the front in the private service of Colonel Owens of the 24th Pa. In 1863 Mr. Williams enlisted in the cause of his country and helped raise a regiment; of this regiment he was orderly sergeant.

He was honorably mustered out of service, three years and two months later.

In the year of his enlistment he was married to Miss Mariah Johnson of St. Louis, on the 16th day of March. She was the daughter of Kittie and Pinden Johnson. Three children were born of this marriage, all of whom died in infancy. Mr. Williams, after the death of his first wife, was subsequently married in 1869 to Ellen J. Johnson, also of St. Louis. To this couple have been born the following named children:

Alfred, Jr., born 1871, deceased in 1888; Thomas Franklin, born 1874; James Paul, born 1875; Charles U., born 1879, deceased in 1881; Keziah dying in infancy.

In Aug. 1869, Mr. Williams came to Illinois, and began bartering at Greenville. Subsequently he conducted a shop for himself in these cities: Mason, Murfreesboro, Mattoon, Windsor and Shelbyville; he came to the city last named in 1874.

The winter in which he came here he was instrumental in founding the A. M. E. church, in which organization he has ever since been a steward, trustee, and local preacher. In politics he has ever voted the Republican ticket. Mr. Williams has a first-class place of business on South Morgan street, and is an "A No. 1" tonsorial artist. We have ever found him to be genial, sociable, and obliging. We understand that he owns a large collection of books and keeps himself well posted on all current questions; he is respected by all.

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DR. GEORGE S. BOLT.

The excellent practitioner whose name heads this biographical survey, is the son of C. L. and Martha (Paine) Bolt. He was born in Ram-

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sey, Illinois, in the year 1861. It may be that the times in which he was born were a prophecy of the struggle that was to characterize his early life and educational efforts. His father was a farmer, and could only do for his son what was common to the rural life of that day; he sent him to the district school. The progress in such institutions is of necessity slow, but in the country schools of our land as noble aspirations as ever animated a human breast have been born. By hard labor and frugality, George was able to enter the High school at Vandalia when he was sixteen years of age. He then began teaching a country school, and thus paved his way to still higher achievements. At the age of twenty he matriculated with the Missouri Medical college, in St. Louis; he was graduated from this institution in 1883. He at once located in the village of Herrick, this county, and began the practice of his chosen profession. This venture has proven so satisfactory to the doctor, himself, and to his constituency that he has never seen fit to remove to other fields. Dr. Bolt is a man who keeps abreast of the times; he spares neither time nor means, being determined to be able to recognize and successfully treat all forms of diseases. He has taken a post-graduate course in the Chicago Ophthalmic college, studying the eye, ear, nose, and throat, graduating from the same in 1888. Two years prior to this, he was married to Miss Ella Whittington. This couple are the parents of two children: One, Bonner, who died in infancy, and Welling, now four years of age. The doctor is a member of the A. F. & A. M., K. of P., Modern Woodmen, and Court of Honor lodges. He has also been Mayor of his village for several terms. He is the owner of considerable valuable land and stands well in the financial, professional, and social circles of the entire county. His present excellent standing is

a living example of the achievements of manly effort, frugality and thrift.

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DR. JOHN C. WESTERVELT.

The subject of this sketch is the son of James L. and Mary (Connelly) Westervelt, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively. He may be said to be of German-Irish descent; his birth-place is in Franklin county, Ohio, and the day of his birth was June 7th, 1855. His early life was spent upon his father's farm and in the country schools of his native district. In early young manhood he spent some time in a High school, after which he engaged in school teaching. He was graduated from the Bennett Eclectic Medical college in 1877, and the following year, from the Hahnemann Medical college. He began his professional practice in Shelbyville in the year 1878, on the first day of March.

July 27th, 1880, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary, daughter of Samuel H. Webster. (Mr. Webster's sketch appears elsewhere in this volume). To this couple have been born three children: Grace L., born Oct. 22nd, 1884, and who is now a graduate from the city schools; Leverett C., born March 10th, 1887, now a pupil in the High school; and Floyd C., born April 11th, 1891.

Besides conducting his professional business the doctor is a member of the firm of Root & Westervelt, and carries on a large traffic in hay, grain and coal. He is a member of various fraternal and insurance orders, and with his family, a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which organization he has a place upon the official board. During the last five years he has been chairman of the Republican Central Committee, which fact is a sufficient commentary on

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the doctor's political views. He was in '95 and '96 the mayor of the city and is now (April 1901) the republican nominee for the same office.

Under the new regime, Doctor Westervelt is President of the Shelby County Fair association, and with his capable and financially able co-laborers, is sparing no pains to give the people of this region genuine reereation of an elevating character which will be unexcelled in the state of Illinois.

As a practitioner the doctor stands well; his practice has been extensive and satisfactory; as a citizen his standing may be inferred from the positions of trust he has been selected to fill; as a soeial faetor, himself and family are in the very front rank. We can only add, we have found him a courteous, affable gentleman, with a large degree of public spirit and interest.

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T. H. GRAHAM.

For three consecutive terms the gentleman whose name heads this article has been Circuit Clerk. When he recently vacated his position to give place to the present ineumbent we heard it said, "No man in the Shelby County Court House ever kept his books more neatly or correctly." Mr. Graham's popularity and place in the hearts of Shelby voters is best attested by his long and continuous term of public service. His father, Martillas Graham, was born just above Terre Haute, on the 25th day of January, 1811; he died in Shelbyville in 1851. He conducted a wool-carding business. The mother of our subject was born in Pulaski county, Kentucky, on the 4th of December, 1813; she died in this city, March 4th, 1900. Her maiden name was Phananda Williams.

Mr. Graham has two sisters, Mrs. Sarah

Patton, of Olympia, Washington, and Mrs. Martha Brown, of Shelbyville. T. H. was born on the twentieth day of April, A. D. 1839, in Coles county, about twenty miles north from the city last mentioned. He came here with his parents when but a small child; and here he received his education, having in addition to the common school, training in the "Old Academy." In 1856—'57 he served as deputy in the county clerk's office. Three years later, viz., in the winter of '59—'60, he went to the state of Kansas. One year later finds him in the Rocky Mountains, and one year later still he is back in Kansas where he enlists in the 12th Kansas infantry for service in the Civil war. For two years and ten months he served his country in her defense.

In the year 1866 he was Deputy Assessor of Douglas county, and in the succeeding year he conducted a newspaper at Leroy, Kansas. In the fall of 1868 he returned to Shelbyville, and has since remained here. For two years of this period he was in the office of Attorney General Hamlin, and for three years he served as Deputy County Clerk. Concerning a man who has served through a period of fifteen consecutive years in a public capacity, and whose official regime has never been questioned, no ecomium from our pen can add to his praise. It may be true and doubtless is that the popularity of T. H. Graham will not be fully known until his familiar figure is missed from the halls of Shelby County Court House.

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WILLIAM E. MCCORMICK.

The present Clerk of the Circuit Court in this county is the gentleman concerning whom this sketch is written. His father and mother,

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Edward and Jane McCormick, came to this country from Ireland, when William E. was but three years of age. They settled on a farm in Tower Hill township; the father died in the year 1892. William was born April 1st, 1859, in Galway county, Ireland, but as he came here at so early an age, he recalls no other home. His boyhood and youth were such as is common to country-life. After becoming somewhat advanced in his studies, he entered the High school at Tower Hill, and from thence he entered the Central Normal college at Danville. After fitting himself for teaching, Mr. McCormick taught for a period of eighteen years in schools of this county; he was principal for three years both in Tower Hill and in Windsor. While engaged in teaching a district school in his home township, he for several years conducted a farm. In A. D. 1884 he was married to Miss Malinda Milliken of Pana; eight years later he suffered the loss of this early helpmeet. Miss Emma B. Shaw, of Windsor, became his wife in 1894; to them have been born two children—Eulala and Lula Mae. Mr. McCormick has been honored by being chosen as supervisor, town clerk and assessor in his township. He has ever been identified with the cause of democracy and while firm in his tenacity to party principles, he yet holds men above party. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias lodges, and with his wife a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. McCormick is a pleasant gentleman to meet, and one who seems interested in the public weal. It is useless for us to pen encomiums concerning a man whose almost entire life has been lived within one single county, and who has, by the franchise of the people, been elevated to such a position as he occupies; this is a eulogy in itself. Mr. McCormick is the only one of his father's children now living, and he,

with his aged mother, owns about four hundred acres of land in Tower Hill township.

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WARNER H. MAUZEY, M. D.

In Dr. W. H. Mauzey, a popular physician of Mode, Shelby county, we find but another striking illustration of what may be accomplished by inherent strength of purpose and indomitable will-power.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Shelby county, having been born in Okaw township on the 16th day of March, 1866. His parents were John and Edna (Dollins) Mauzey, both born in Boyles county, Kentucky. By close application to study in the district schools, by the time he was seventeen years old Mr. Mauzey was fitted for entrance to the Bushnell Business college, where he took a good business course of training.

He took for his girl-wife Miss Ella Banks, daughter of Thomas and Cassandra Banks, of Findlay. Three children, Eva, Addie and Millie, have been born to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Mauzey. Millie is a beautiful young girl of fourteen, and is attending the graded school at Findlay. In 1889 Mr. Mauzey suffered the loss of his wife, who was a woman well known and much admired for her many charming qualities. In 1893, the doctor was again married, this time to another estimable young lady of Findlay, Miss Cora Cooken. To this second union has been born one child, John, in 1899, who shares with the three girls above mentioned, the tender love and care of both parents.

After his first marriage Mr. Mauzey moved to Chicago, where he remained until after the death of his wife and his subsequent marriage. In 1895 he entered Louisville Medical college,



DR. W. H. MAUZEY.

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and was graduated therefrom three years later. After his graduation he located in Mode, and during his first months of practice was obliged to walk when called to see a patient, not being financially able to keep a horse. But he early established a reputation as a careful, skillful practitioner, and has secured an enviable practice, which has materially changed his financial condition. Mr. Mauzey is a pleasant gentleman to meet, easily makes acquaintances, and is highly appreciated by his many warm friends. We prophesy for him added success in his profession, and a high standing in the medical fraternity of the county.

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WILLIAM F. FAGEN.

William F. Fagen was born in Shelbyville, Illinois, April 24th, 1861. His parents, Michael and Margarett (Sherlock) Fagen, were natives of the Emerald Isle, afterward emigrating to this country.

The subject of our review attended school in Shelbyville until he was seventeen years of age, when he entered the printing office of the late Dr. E. Waggoner, then editor of the Shelby County Democrat. He began work for \$1.50 per week, but by close application to the technicalities of the "art preservative," he soon advanced to the foremanship of the office, remaining as such for the succeeding eight years. In 1887 he went to Stewardson, where he founded the Stewardson Clipper, a first-class weekly newspaper. For a year he was in partnership with a Mr. Wilson, but purchased his interests at the end of that time, and is now sole proprietor and publisher of the paper, which has an ever-increasing circulation. His newspaper plant is not his only property by any means, as he has

other real estate in Stewardson, and a farm in Prairie township.

In 1888 Mr. Fagen was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Newman, daughter of Charles and Margarett Diddea, of Stewardson. To them has been born one child, a bright little girl now a few years of age, and the home life of the family is pleasant and happy.

Mr. Fagen was director of the Building & Loan association of Stewardson for a number of years; is a member of Home Forum lodge; and Chancellor Commander of the Knights of Pythias lodge, of which he is a member. Mr. Fagen is another illustration of what can be accomplished by men who have no financial prestige with which to start in life, but who, by persistent effort and strict integrity win for themselves a fair measure of success and stand well in the respect and confidence of the people with whom they associate.

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CHARLES M. FLEMING.

We have now to record the biography of one of Shelby's foremost educators, a man born and bred within her borders—Charles M. Fleming. He first saw the light of day in Holland township December 9, 1859, on the farm which is now designated as the "Ben North farm." His parents were Samuel W. and Mary Jane (Fraker) Fleming. His first school days were spent in the East Salem district schools, where he laid the foundation for the splendid education which he now has, and which qualifies him for the responsible position which he occupies. When eighteen years of age, Mr. Fleming entered the Shelbyville High school, where he pursued his studies for two years. At the end of that time, he secured a school at Sandy Hill, Rose township.

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and entered upon the profession of a teacher. In this township he taught for five years, giving eminent satisfaction to the pupils and patrons of the school. In 1884 he entered the State Normal school, at Normal, Ill., applied himself closely to his work, and was graduated in the class of '89. Returning to this county he became principal of the public schools at Cowden; and later, was principal of schools at Moweaqua and Robinson, successively. Four years ago he was secured as principal of the schools at Stewardson, and his efficient service there confirms the belief that in employing Mr. Fleming for that position, the Board of Education made no mistake. He is still the incumbent, and is likely to so remain for some time to come, unless by his own action he severs his connection with the school. It may also be recorded that in his effort to place himself in the front ranks of his profession he has left no honorable means untried; and amongst the training schools he attended was the Summer School at Independence, Kansas, where he assiduously applied himself to the acquirement of the latest and best principles and methods of teaching. His merit was easily recognizable, and while at the State Normal he taught the preparatory class there for three successive years.

It must be admitted that while at the Normal Mr. Fleming's whole attention was not centered and fixed upon his books, nor yet upon the class which he taught, for in 1885, he turned aside from these for a time, and led to the altar Miss Anna M. Ruch, of Rose township. Miss Ruch was an accomplished young lady—the daughter of John and Magdalene (Vulmer) Ruch. Four bright and promising children have been born to bless this union, and have been named as follows: Roy C., Homer R., Mary J., and Joseph A., the latter being called back to

heaven while still a babe of eighteen months. The remaining children are in school, and bid fair to apply themselves to their work in such a manner as to reflect credit on their teachers and parents.

Personally Mr. Fleming has an individuality all his own, and is of an honest, frank disposition, meriting and easily winning the complete confidence of those who know him. He is one of those men whom we sometimes term "self-made," having started in life with very little of this world's goods, but working his way toward the top with great strength of purpose and persistency, and overcoming the obstacles which would have been to many men, insurmountable.

Mr. Fleming and his family are preeminently happy in their beautiful home life, and move in a circle of friends and acquaintances who prize them for their true worth.

It is with pleasure we produce the portrait of Mr. Fleming on another page of this volume.

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DR. GEORGE W. MAUZEY.

The parentage of Dr. George W. Mauzey, who was born in Moultrie county, this state, on the 19th of February, 1862, is identical with that of his brother, Dr. W. H. Mauzey, whose biographical sketch appears on another page. The grand-parents came to this state from Virginia, and their ancestors were natives of France.

The first education Mr. Mauzey received was in the district schools, but he afterward attended the Shelbyville High school. In 1879 he entered the employ of Hunter & Marshutz, as clerk in their shoe store. Five years later he opened a mercantile establishment for himself at Findlay, and was appointed the first postmaster of that town. He continued his business in

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Findlay until 1889, when he tendered his resignation as postmaster, sold his mercantile stock, and entered the Louisville Medical college, where he spent three years of earnest study, and was graduated therefrom in 1892. The following year he was graduated from the medical department of Central University, Kentucky, where he had gone for a year of study along the line of his chosen profession. This university is known as the Hospital College of Medicine.

On July 1st, 1893, Dr. Mauzey began the practice of medicine, locating at Findlay, where nine years before he had begun his mercantile business. The doctor is a pleasant, genial man, and by his careful attention to his professional duties is winning for himself an enviable reputation as a physician.

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GEORGE WASHINGTON VORIS.

One of the most prominent men of the southern part of Shelby county is George W. Voris, of whom we give this pen-sketch. He was born on the eleventh of November, 1850, in Bath, Summit county, Ohio, the son of Peter and Julia (Coe) Voris, both of whom have been dead for a number of years.

George was a bright lad, and made excellent use of his opportunities for receiving a common school education. When sixteen years of age, he, by his own efforts, was enabled to enter the Valley Seminary, at Fulton, where he remained three years in close application to study. When he was but seven years of age, his parents moved from Ohio to Mattoon, Illinois, and in March, 1859, George left the home, spending the summer with an elder brother. In the fall of that year, he with his brother went to Taylor county,

Iowa, driving across the country with a wagon and a pair of mules, and camping, hunting and cooking their food by the way. It was during their trip that the trading proclivities of the boy first became manifest, in that he performed his part in the trading of a team of poor mules for a pair of good horses. In Iowa he remained four years, making his home with a married sister, and employing his time in working on the farm and herding cattle. When thirteen years old, he removed to Knodaway county, Missouri, where he continued farm work and herding until 1866, when he returned to Knox county, Illinois, and worked on the farm of a Mr. Crane until the fall term of Valley Seminary opened, whereupon he took up studies there, as before mentioned. Three years later, Mr. Voris went to Neoga, where he entered a grain office and warehouse, remaining there only until the following spring, when he secured employment as clerk in one of the general stores in Windsor. In 1874 he went to Stewardson, where he still resides. His first business engagement there was the buying and selling of hay, grain and live stock, as well as afterward supplying the Clover Leaf R. R. with ties. At the same time he was engaged as station agent for the Chicago & Padueah R. R., now called the Wabash.

Mr. Voris enjoys the distinction of being the first settler in Stewardson, his office being the first building erected in the town; and he is now one of the foremost of the enterprising and public-spirited citizens. He still conducts an extensive business in the feeding and shipping of live stock, and is the owner of large tracts of land; and the fact that beginning life with nothing, and by sheer energy and persistency securing for himself the comfortable competency he now enjoys, proves that though he was the thirteenth child, he was not unlucky.

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In 1875 Mr. Voris was married to Miss Sophia, daughter of William and Margaret Pfluger, of Stewardson. To them have been born seven children, one of whom—Charles Poe—died in infancy. The others are: Mabel M., Ralph E., Frank R., Letha Maud, Helen and Virginia; and Mr. and Mrs. Voris are justly proud of these bright, intelligent boys and girls.

Mr. Voris enjoys the confidence and respect of his townsmen, as is shown by the fact of his being the present mayor of Stewardson. He has also been a justice of the peace for several years, and is a member of the Merchants' Exchange of St. Louis. He is of a speculative disposition and delights in trading. He is a popular man, and one of his marked characteristics is that of his manifest kindness and tenderness toward his own family. A member of the Masonic order, he has reached a high degree in that organization; and, all in all, Stewardson may well congratulate itself upon having such a citizen as George Washington Voris.

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TOM TROWER.

The name Trower is familiar throughout Shelby county. The father of the subject of this sketch, Mr. Wm. Addison Trower, was born in Albemarle Co., Va., in the year 1833. His father, Dr. J. W., was a native of Kentucky, and his mother, Jane W. (Breedlove) was indigenous to Virginia. The family root on the paternal side is probably of Welsh extraction. Addison came with his parents to Charleston, Illinois, in 1837, and to Shelbyville in 1847. He received his only educational training in the district school. His early labors were confined to farming and clerking. Mr. Trower has been

before the people in a public manner during much of his long residence here. Three different times he has been postmaster of the city; served one term as sheriff, one as deputy sheriff, and one as coroner; he was master-in-chancery for two terms, and for one term mayor of the city.

In 1862 he began to publish *The Shelby County Leader*, and a little later became the owner of the same. The ownership of said paper did not pass from his hands until 1894. Miss Cordelia Smith became his wife on the 30th day of October, 1856. They are the parents of six children, the following four now living: Mary (Ballet), now a resident of St. Louis; Virginia (Ricketts), now of Charleston; Maude (Walker) wife of the cashier of the Shelby County State bank; and Tom, of whom we write.

This, the only living son, a popular jeweler of Shelbyville, was born in this city in A. D. 1877. In addition to the training afforded by the city schools here, he attended school for one year in Peoria. For one year he worked in Charleston, Ill., and two years since, opened a jewelry business for himself in Shelbyville. Mr. Trower has a large stock of excellent goods, and the window displays which he has made on special and holiday occasions we have never seen excelled outside the great cities. He meets the public in a courteous, affable manner and seems anxious to give customers the worth of their money. We predict for him an increasingly prosperous future. On the 27th day of November last, he was united in marriage with Miss Hilda, daughter of Dr. Enos Penwell. They live in a comfortable cottage on North Morgan street, and stand well in the social circles of the city of their nativity.

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MAUTZ.

It is with pleasure we attempt the writing of a biographical sketch of the lives of the two brothers whose name is found at the head of this biography, and who are so well known and universally respected in social and commercial circles of the southern portion of our county. The parents were George and Rosina (Shantz) Mautz, born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1802 and 1808, respectively.

Mr. and Mrs. Mautz, with their family, emigrated to America in 1852, and settled at Zanesville, Ohio, and later in Fairfield county, of the same state, and which has furnished to Shelby many of her citizens. Not long did they remain there, but came to this county in 1854, first settling on rented land in Rose township, which they operated for some years. They afterward purchased Section 32, and later, half of Section 31. They were very successful in their agricultural pursuits, and as the children reached maturity they were aided in launching out into life each for himself. The children born to this couple were Gottlieb, Rosina, Christian, George, Barbara, Lewis, John F., William, Jacob H., David and Thomas, the latter two of whom are the subjects of this review. The father died February 3, 1872, and the mother followed January 15, 1891. They were members of the Swedenborgian church, and were of a kindly, generous disposition, with a sturdy Christian faith and character, which secured for them the confidence and friendship of those with whom they came in contact.

DAVID.

David Mautz was born in the Wutemberg home, January 8, 1845, landing, with his parents, in New York on April 1, 1852. Trained and nurtured by his faithful parents, he early

developed a sturdy character and an adaptability for business pursuits. His school days were spent in the district schools, and later in the Okaw Seminary in Shelbyville. After finishing his training at the University of Chicago, he began a public career by teaching school for two years, in his home district. For the five succeeding years, he served as a clerk in the Chicago Savings bank, where he received the insight into matters financial which later led him into his present vocation. He afterward returned to the farm of his father, where he remained for a number of years.

November 16, 1876, Mr. Mautz was married to Miss Louise F. Weber, who also was a native of Wurtemberg, having been born there on the 31st of March, 1852. Until December 12, 1885, Mrs. Mautz was spared to her husband—the brightest star in his existence—but on that day was called from earth, to "that bourn from whence no traveler returns." The one comfort of the bereaved husband was the babe, Edward J., who has now grown to a noble young manhood, and is the pride and joy of his parent. His education in the general branches was received in the public schools of the county and from the State University at Champaign. In 1897 he entered the law department of the Michigan University at Ann Arbor, and was graduated therefrom in June, 1900. During the late unpleasantness with Spain Edward enlisted in Co. G, 39th Reg. Ill. Vol., and got as far as Tampa, Fla., with the company, but was prevented from active service by the speedy termination of the war. He is now in Texas.

In 1893 Mr. Mautz established the monetary institution known as "The Stewardson Bank," which is a great financial accommodation to the part of the county in which it is located. Mr. Mautz is a conservative, successful business man—one whom it is a pleasure to

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know, and whose status in the community adds to the same.

THOMAS P.

Thomas P. Mautz, also, first saw the light of day in Wurtemberg, December 21, 1849, and came to this country with the family. His basic education was received in the schools of his boyhood homes. He remained in his father's home until twenty years of age, when he learned the milling trade, working at Pana and Rosemond. After spending some time in Bainbridge, Indiana, and Oconee, Ill., he came to Stewardson in 1874, and for three years operated a flouring mill in that place, afterward forming a partnership with H. H. York. In 1878 Mr. Mautz established a general merchandise store in Shumway, Ill., but the following year removed it to Stewardson, where he still conducts it.

Mr. Mautz has been a very prominent figure in political circles, early identifying himself with the Democratic party, and exerting his influence in the furthering of its principles. For thirteen years he was a member of the Board of Supervisors, and was chairman of the same for six years. He has served his own town as mayor for a number of years, and the federal government as postmaster of Stewardson for a term. He has also been one of the influential members of the County Democratic Central committee for ten years.

On May 20, 1879, Mr. Mautz was married to Miss Bertha Karls, a daughter of John Karls, of Rural township. Her birthplace was Locksville, O., where she was born December 13, 1858. Mr. and Mrs. Mautz are the parents of six charmingly dispositioned children, whose names we give in the order of their births: Nora, Lillie, Lottie, Frank, Karl and Manda,

who are all living, and are the jewels which brighten the home circle.

Mr. Mautz is a member of the same church as that with which his father was affiliated—the Swedenborgian. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and has been for a number of years Master of Sigel Lodge, No. 541. He and his family are valued members of Stewardson society, always ready to aid in anything which is for the public welfare, and have a host of friends.

* * * *

CHARLES F. FRIESE.

The subject of this sketch was born in the Province of Silkaroda, Saxony, Germany, Aug. 24, 1853. His parents were also natives of that province, the father being born in 1829, and the mother in 1830.

The family emigrated from Germany to Cook county, Illinois, and from there removed to Prairie township of Shelby county, locating on the present site of Stewardson. Charles remained with his parents upon the farm, applying himself diligently to study in the district schools during the winters.

When twenty-three years of age, Mr. Friese was married to Miss Christena E. Bauer, born in Hocking county, Ohio, July 6, 1860, the daughter of Jacob and Catherina (Ulmer) Bauer. To this couple have been born the following named children: Henry Frederick, Aug. 13, 1879; John August, Dec. 5, 1880; Julia Louise, Dec. 15, 1883; Wilhelmina Henriette, Feb. 23, 1886; Charles, July 4, 1888; Jacob F., Dec. 10, 1890; Albert Wilhelm, Jan. 8, 1893; Caroline Elizabeth, March 3, 1895; Sophia Maria, Nov. 26, 1896, and Andrew Martin, March 24, 1899.



GEORGE W. VORIS.

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Mr. Friese, with his family, is highly respected and well-liked where known. He has lived on a farm all his life-time, and is an industrious, hard-working man; and has, by honesty in all business transactions, by his industry and economy, accumulated a competency for himself and family. Besides superintending the farm, he owns and operates a cider mill and steam hay press.

In politics Mr. Friese is a democrat, and has held several political offices, amongst which has been that of Commissioner of Highways, and he is at present Township Collector, a position of trust well merited.

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WILLIAM F. HOLMES.

Another name which is well fitted to occupy a place in the list of prominent men of Shelby county, is that of Dr. Wm. F. Holmes, of Stewardson. Born to poverty and obscurity, he has ever had almost overwhelming obstacles with which to contend, and is deserving of much credit for the splendid success he has achieved in life. He was born in Eaton, Ill., June 28, 1867, the son of Reuben S. and Mary E. (Price) Holmes, who both died when William was but ten years of age, leaving him alone in the world, to make his own way. He was "bound out" to certain parties until his 21st year, but becoming dissatisfied he left, at the age of twelve. From that time he secured employment at anything he could, during the summers, and attended the district schools in the winter. By close application to his studies he was fitted to enter Union Christian college, of Merom, Indiana, when he was seventeen years old. The determination of the boy to receive an education can readily be seen from the fact

that for the three years he spent in this college, he paid his way with money earned by hard toil in digging coal by night, while he studied during the day. After he concluded his work there, he went to Eureka college, Eureka, Ill., graduating therefrom in 1890. Going to Chicago, he engaged with McGregor & Company, manufacturers of portable and stationary engines, as bookkeeper, and remained with them one year. In 1893, Mr. Holmes began the study of medicine, and one year later entered Rush Medical college. After his graduation in 1897, which he was enabled to accomplish by persistent and unceasing effort, together with a quick perception and ready mind, he practiced medicine for nearly two years in Chicago; also lecturing during that time, on Histology, at the Von Feltman Dental college. In April of 1899, Dr. Holmes removed to Stewardson, where he now lives, and enjoys a large practice.

In October, 1899, Mr. Holmes was united in marriage to one of Effingham's charming young maidens. She was Miss Delia Alice Hubbard. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes are genial, courteous people, and popular members of Stewardson society. The doctor has the complete confidence of the community in his profession, as well as a man; which fact is attested by his growing practice. He is still a young man, but has already achieved a fair measure of success, and we predict for him a bright and useful future in the noble work of his humane profession.

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ALBERT L. CARRUTHERS.

The subject of this review, Albert L. Carruthers, was born on the 9th day of May, 1848, on a farm in the township of Washington, county of Tuscarawas, Ohio. He was one of ten chil-

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dren born to Uriah and Rebecca (Dening) Carruthers, natives of Virginia and Ohio, respectively, the father being of Scotch descent. The names of the children we append, as follows: George N., Robert, Lemuel A., who died in the army; John, Julia, now deceased; William A., Martha E., Albert L., Charles, and Mary E. Of these, seven have been school teachers, five were soldiers in the Civil war, and eight are still living, four in Ohio and four in Illinois.

Albert L. received his education in the district school of his Ohio home, and began teaching in 1870, in the township in which he now lives. He was called home, however, by the serious illness of his father and a brother, before the expiration of the first term of school.

In 1871, Miss Elizabeth C. Lakin, daughter of William and Luessa (Packer) Lakin, became the wife of Mr. Carruthers, and they began their wedded life on the old homestead of his father, where they remained until 1884. Four children have been born to bless this union, the names of whom are as follows: Annie B., born in 1871; Charles L., October, 1874; Bertha L., November, 1881, and Ralph B., May, 1885. The first three of these were born in the Ohio home, and the last in Ash Grove township, of this county. Annie is married to John Veech, and resides on a farm in Ash Grove; Charles married Bertha Crockett, and lives in Big Spring township.

Seventeen years ago Mr. Carruthers removed from Ohio to Illinois, settling on an Ash Grove farm owned by his brother, John. The following spring he moved onto the farm of one hundred acres now owned by him, on Section 26.

Mr. Carruthers is a prominent man in his community, and as superintendent of the County Sunday School association, is well and favorably known throughout the county. The entire family are members of the Methodist Episcopal

church, Mr. Carruthers uniting with the same thirty years ago, and his wife when she was but ten years of age. He has always been fond of Sunday school work, and has held every position of a Sunday school worker in the local school in the township and in the county. He is at present on his fourth year as superintendent, and is one of the most untiring and zealous workers the association has ever had. From the report of the 23d convention of the association, held in August of this year, we find that Mr. Carruthers has attended five state conventions and fourteen county conventions in Shelby and adjoining counties.

Mr. Carruthers is present school director of his district, is a stockholder in the Neoga creamery and is one of its board of directors. He is a member of the Court of Honor, and has held the office of Chancellor of the same since its organization. He is one of the most prominent and influential members of the church to which he belongs. He now holds the position of steward and trustee, and has been class leader for fifteen consecutive years, and recording steward for the past six years. During these six years he has missed but two meetings of the quarterly conference. This all goes to show the esteem and confidence in which Mr. Carruthers is held by those who know him as a thoroughly upright, Christian gentleman. And, indeed, his entire family share with him the respect of a host of friends and acquaintances.

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MRS. AMANDA E. DUNLAP.

Mrs. Amanda Dunlap, the subject of this sketch, was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, October the 8th, 1835. She was the daughter of Salmon and Nancy (Barr) Grover. At the death

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of her mother, when Amanda was but four or five years old, she was put out to board and attend school. From childhood until she was twenty years of age, she remained in the home of a Mr. Miller. Then in the fall of 1855 she came by stage to Caswell county, at the request of a friend, a physician, in whose family she remained during the winter, coming to Shelbyville in the spring of the following year. Soon after this she entered the Shelby Academy, where she continued for three terms, afterward teaching for one term.

On the thirtieth day of December, 1861, Miss Grover was joined in marriage to James S. Dunlap, a farmer living near Shelbyville. Before marriage Mr. Dunlap enlisted for service in the 54th Illinois Volunteers, and in 1864 he died in St. Louis, from a disease contracted during service. Mrs. Dunlap did not see her husband but a few times after he marched away soon after his marriage. One child was born to this couple, a boy who died in his fourteenth year.

Mrs. Dunlap has been a member of the Methodist church since she was twenty years of age, and is ever faithful in her attendance on divine worship; her parents were christians and she was converted at twelve years of age. She is a kindly disposed person, and wishes it said that if her life has not always seemed what it should have been, it has been caused by her troubles, of which she has had an unusual number throughout her life. For a long time she struggled to own a home which she finally possessed on North Morgan street. This, through ill health, she subsequently lost; it has been her further misfortune to be separated from all her dear ones at the time of their deaths. In connection with a wish of Mrs. Dunlap's we might aptly quote from Miss Havergal's matchless poem, "Compensation:"

"We gaze on the path of another as a far-off mountain scene,

Scanning the outlined hills, but never the vales between:

How can we judge another? we who can never know

From the juttings above the surface, the depth of the vein below."

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WILLIAM H. WOOLARD.

Dr. William H. Woolard was born in Leesburg, Ohio, A. D., 1838. His parents were Thomas and Rebecca (Hiatte) Woolard. Their ancestry was doubtless of English origin, but they were natives of the Buckeye state. Mr. Woolard was by trade a master mechanic, and judging by the distinguishing characteristics of his son, William, these may best be accounted for by the mysterious laws of heredity. Just to what extent one's life may be influenced by the loss of paternal care is a problem beyond reach of human "ken," but that such a loss can do no other than greatly affect the life of any child is a fact too obvious to admit an argument. That the early loss of his father may have developed great resourcefulness and independence in the life and temperament of Dr. Woolard is true, thus proving a blessing to his boyhood days; but, that a life, thus left to its own struggles, might have become still more marked and useful, under the restraining hand and fostering care of a father, is equally probable.

The education of the one whose life sketch we now pen, was received in the common schools of his native town. His first experience in the industrial world was in a tool-shop near his home village. It may fairly be stated the constant companions of his entire life have been books and tools. So fond is he of books that one would think he could never turn his hand to a practical

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thing—a book-worm should be his name—but so fond is he of mechanical pursuits and inventive plans, that when thus engaged, one would never suspect his scholastic tendencies and attainments.

After leaving Ohio, Dr. Woolard first located, for a period of about two years, in Indiana, where he worked as a jeweler. He came to this county in the year 1856, driving through from his Indiana home. He was accompanied on this drive by his mother, and they together settled in Big Spring township. In the year 1860, he was married to Miss Melinda Curry, daughter of James and Mary Curry. The marriage ceremony was performed in the court house in the city of Shelbyville.

Mr. and Mrs. Woolard are the parents of three children—Jennie, who is the wife of Mr. George De Long, a foreman in the Wabash car shops at Decatur, Illinois; J. Henry, who was until his death this present fall (1900) a foreman in the stereotyping department of a Chicago publishing house, and who leaves a wife (formerly Miss May Warden of Windsor) and two children; and Mary Annis, whose death occurred in 1867, when she was but six and one-half years of age.

After his marriage, Mr. Woolard settled in Ash Grove township, and for several years engaged in the jeweler's business. In November, 1865, he moved to the village of Windsor where he has since resided. During the period of the Civil war, Mr. Woolard studied medicine, but was discouraged from its practice by local conditions, chief among which was the then almost impassible condition of the country roads. In the year 1870, Dr. Woolard purchased the dental business of W. H. Waite, and has ever since conducted the same. The fact that the doctor is always busy is a sufficient commentary on the kind

of work he turns out. His mechanical genius has found a considerable scope for employment in his dentistry. Some valuable plans for bracing and supporting plate and bridge work are original with him.

During his life, he has found time to perfect and complete several valuable patents. The most of these are applied to the milling industry; but one of them, a steam dishwasher is of an entirely different nature and of such importance that Mr. Woolard received honorable mention from the World's Fair committee. From his youth up, he has been the adviser of those engaged in mechanical and inventive pursuits.

His religious impressions were received largely from the Quakers. He believes in deeds rather than creeds. In politics he has been a life-long democrat, but, on questions of local importance, has ever voted against the saloon, regardless of party. Mr. Woolard has never cared for a public office and has discouraged every offer of one.

His life is a quiet, unostentatious one, but the people of Windsor township recognize in it one of sterling qualities and genuine ability.

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HON. DAVID P. KELLER.

David P. Keller, of Moweaqua, was born near Lancaster, Ohio, July 10th, 1834. He is clearly of German extraction, the ancestry on both sides having come from the Kaiser's realm. His parents were Daniel and Susan (Ruffner) Keller. The father was born in York county, Pennsylvania, in the year 1797; he went to Ohio with his parents in 1802 and settled in what was then the great wilderness of the northwest. Strangely, he never removed from the place

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where their first cabin was built, and died there in the ninetieth year of his life. It was into this frontier-home that David and ten other children were born. Only four of the family still live; our subject and three of his sisters. The mother was a native of Shenandoah county, Virginia; she was born in the year 1800, and in 1806 was taken by her parents into Ohio. She lived and died the faithful, hard-working, old-time mother. In addition to the meagre training furnished by the district school of that early day, David spent two years in the Otterbein University at Westerville, Ohio. Here he acquired much of the useful knowledge which has marked its approval upon his subsequent life. For a period of five years he engaged in teaching school, which further increased his mental calibre and developed self-reliant manhood. On the 20th day of September, 1859, he wedded Miss Rebecca McFarland, a resident of his own locality. For about five years they engaged in farming in Ohio, and in November, 1864, moved to Shelby county, Illinois. Five children, all living, have blessed their union: Grace, now Mrs. C. A. Hight, of Dalton City; Mr. Hight is engaged in banking and grain business with Mr. Keller; Walter S., a resident of Des Moines, Ia., is engaged in the handling of farm implements. He took for a wife Miss Josie Freeland; Addie (Mrs. Harry Bartlett), of Milwaukee, Wis., whose husband works in the rolling mills; Augustus R., who took for a wife Miss Sadie Warren, and who resides on a farm of his own near Macon; and Julia, the wife of Mr. George Doughty, of Moweaqua.

In February of 1869, Mr. Keller moved into Macon county, on a farm where for a period of twenty-six years he prospered as a farmer and stock-raiser: a part of this farm he still owns. In this manner he became a well-known man in two counties, and it is probable that few men

have such a wide local acquaintanceship. In 1892 Mr. Keller made his first banking venture, when he became associated with his son-in-law in said business in Dalton City before mentioned. Subsequently they added the buying of grain to their enterprise and now manage two large elevators. Mr. Keller moved to Moweaqua in March, 1895. Prior to his coming, and one year after his banking project at Dalton, he formed a partnership for a like concern to operate in Moweaqua. The other members of the firm were W. C. Miller and J. W. Brown.

After two years Mr. Miller retired from the partnership and the business was then conducted by the remaining two. After a time Mr. Ralph Ayars became associated as a partner; and, still later, early in 1900, Mr. Brown dropped out, and then the institution conducted its operations under the name of Keller, Ayars & Co. On April 1st, of the present year, (1901) Mr. Ayars retired from the concern and the banking business is now conducted under the proprietorship and ownership of Mr. Keller and wife. Mr. Keller has incidentally, for more than thirty years, acted in the capacity of an auctioneer. He has doubtless conducted more than five hundred sales. In politics he is a staunch republican. During his residence in Macon county he was a continual office-holder. He has filled all the township positions of honor and trust, and twice by the suffrages of his friends and fellow-citizens was he elevated to the place of member of the Assembly. He served his constituency to their satisfaction in the 36th and 37th General Assemblies of the State of Illinois. Mr. Keller and his wife are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church. The manliness and integrity of our subject we have never heard questioned. He is a pleasant, versatile, courteous

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gentleman with whom it is a pleasure to meet. His life and character may well offer a field for emulation.

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WALTER H. SILVER.

The gentleman concerning whom this sketch is written is the present mayor of Shelbyville. In the capacity of city clerk, he served this municipality for ten years. He has also served upon the board of supervisors; which facts testify, that in the eyes of the public, he is a man of merit and fitness for positions of responsibility and trust. He was born in Cassopolis, Michigan, on the 17th of May, 1857. His father, Jedediah H., was a native of New Hampshire, and his mother, Julia (Mead) Silver, was indigenous of New York. These parents of our subject came to Michigan at an early day, while they were children. In March of 1858 they came to Shelbyville, Illinois. Mr. Silver was a brick and stone mason by trade, but after coming here, he began farming in Ridge township. For two terms he served as sheriff of the county.

Walter was reared upon the farm and received his education in the common schools of the county. When 18 years of age, he began clerking here in the city. October 19th, 1882, he was wedded to Miss May Jolly, of Shelbyville; the names of her parents being John S. and Catherine (Vickers) Jolly. Three children have been born of this marriage—Catherine, Glenn and Verne. The children are all attending the city schools. Mr. Silver conducted a grocery business for himself for a period of three years, in the room now occupied by the Herron Bros. He sold his stock of groceries, and purchased the stock of dry goods owned by Wm. Wright. After continuing in this enterprise for a brief

time, he sold out this stock, and went west. Not finding a business opening to suit his inclinations at the time, Mr. Silver returned from the west and worked in a brick-yard for a period of two years. He then became manager for the poultry firm of Arthur Jordan & Co. From this engagement he accepted a position with the First National bank, with which institution he continued for a period of four years. At the end of this time he re-entered the employ of the Jordan company, and still has charge of their business. During the past fall and winter the amount of shipping done from this branch establishment has been enormous. Mr. Silver has ever been a democrat in politics, and is a member of the K. of P., Redmen, Woodmen, and S. M. R. A. fraternal and insurance orders. We have found Mr. Silver to be a pleasant and courteous gentleman, and the positions of trust he has held in the city, speak more eloquently in his favor than any encomiums from our pen. The father, whose name has been so favorably known throughout the county, is suffering under the withering touch of paralysis. In his enfeebled decline, he is being tenderly cared for by his sons.

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GEORGE HILER.

Though not a resident of Richland township for very many years, Mr. George T. Hiler, of whom we write has become one of the most prominent and substantial farmers of his neighborhood and township, and it is with pleasure that we write his name in this chapter on "Prominent Men."

Mr. Hiler was born in Park county, Indiana, February, 19, 1860. His father, a native of Virginia, was Jacob Hiler, while the maiden name of



DAVID RICHARDSON.



H. M. SCARBOROUGH.

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his mother, a native of Indiana, was Jane Kibby. Mrs. Hiler died when George was but two years of age, and the death of his father followed ten years later. Being left alone in the world at this tender age, and with but little inherited substance, he was practically reared by a half-sister, now Mrs. Minerva Warrens. A common district school was the only one George attended, but such good use did he make of his opportunities that he acquired an education therefrom, a little above the ordinary.

In September, 1874, he came with the sister above referred to, to Champaign county, Illinois, and afterward entered the employ of a farmer in the county, thus commencing his agricultural career, by working by the month for a period of five years.

The crowning event of Mr. Hiler's life came to him in 1884, when, on the 28th day of February, he led as a blushing bride to the altar, Miss Sarah E. Griffith, a daughter of George and Margaret (Dollar) Griffith, natives of Indiana, and Coles county, Illinois, respectively. Miss Griffith was one of the most attractive and intellectual young women of her neighborhood, and George was voted a fortunate young man by the other young gallants of their acquaintance. Mrs. Hiler has preserved to the present time, her charm of manner and disposition, and is a bright, vivacious woman who makes the home pleasant and happy for the family, as well as for the "sometime" guest.

Five children, who are the pride of the parents, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hiler. Their names are as follows: Walter R., Lillie M., both born in Champaign county; Robert E., Estella E., and Georgia M., born in their Shelby county home.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hiler began housekeeping on a rented farm in Cham-

paign county, where they remained two years, and then bought a farm in Raymond township of the same county. On this farm they remained six years, then coming to Ash Grove township of this county, and buying a farm, which they sold the same year. From thence they removed to Findlay, where they purchased a farm, but within a year's time sold it again. It was then they bought the farm upon which they now reside, 161 acres in Section 7, of Richland township, and which they have found to be quite a satisfactory investment. The farm is all well-improved, drained and tiled, and the soil is very fertile, and under the skillful supervision of Mr. Hiler, is very productive. From it Mr. Hiler sold about \$2,400 worth of produce in 1899.

Mr. Hiler has served his neighborhood as school director, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Both he and his wife are honored and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and are both beloved for their hospitality and courteous geniality.

* * * *

DAVID F. RICHARDSON.

David F. Richardson was born at Groveport, Ohio, in the year 1838. His father, Marcus C., was a native of Virginia, and his mother, Jane (Ramsey), a native of Ohio. Their ancestry was of English stock, some of whom came to this country in its early days. Mr. Richardson, Sr., was a farmer by occupation, and emigrated from his Ohio home stopping several times on the way and arriving in Shelby county in the great westward movement of 1849. After settling here he became favorably known to all, and was twice honored by being chosen sheriff of the county.

David was reared upon the farm, and received his education in the country schools.

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When he was twenty-one years of age, he left home and began clerking in a store at Mattoon; after a few months, however, he returned to farming, in which occupation he continued until 1861, when he volunteered in Co. H, of the 7th Illinois cavalry. While in the service, he participated in the battles of New Madrid, Corinth, Farmington, Miss., and numerous skirmishes. For some time he acted under an appointment by Major Nelson as commissary for refugees. He was honorably discharged from service in February of 1863.

On the 20th day of April, 1865, the wedding bells were rung for David F. Richardson and Belle Venters. The bride was the daughter of George Venters, a resident of this county. Four children, all of whom are living, were born of this union: Mary E., now Mrs. Martin Herron, of Shelbyville; Minnie J., now Mrs. Otto Storm, of Richland township; Elizabeth, now Mrs. M. F. Storm, of Strasburg and Marcus L., who is at home.

For a period of thirteen years, Mr. Richardson was engaged in mercantile business in Winsor. Eight of these years he was town clerk. After moving to Shelbyville, he was deputy sheriff of the county for a period of six years.

Mr. Richardson was the owner of above eleven hundred acres of land on which there were valuable coal deposits, but has recently sold three hundred and eighty-three acres. For some years he has engaged in the raising of thoroughbred stock—Poll Angus cattle, Duroc Jersey swine, and Shropshire sheep. For the third time he is now a resident of Shelbyville, and lives in a comfortable home of his own on North Broadway. He has been a life-long democrat, yet has ever held men above party. He is a member of the A. F and A. M. lodge. Mr. Richardson bears

a reputation for honesty, thrift, integrity and public-spiritedness. He is one of Shelby county's good citizens.

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DR. FRANKLIN P. BIVINS.

The subject of this review has ever lived in Shelby county; his birth taking place in Rose township July 30th, 1853. His father, William R., was a native of Tennessee, having been born near the city of Nashville; he came with his parents to Illinois when about four years of age. During the greater part of his life he was engaged in rural pursuits, though, for a period of eighteen years he conducted a grocery store in Shelbyville. He was a "forty-niner," and made the overland trip to the far western gold fields, driving through with an ox team. An exciting experience while crossing the Platte river, in which one of his party was drowned, ever lingered among Mr. Bivin's vivid recollections; he was somewhat profited by the trip. His death occurred in his seventy-third year.

Frusan (Warren) Bivins, the mother of the doctor, was the daughter of Peter Warren, a captain in the Mexican war. She was indigenous to Illinois. Franklin was reared upon a farm, and if his boyhood was at all exceptional it was in the amount of work he performed. In addition to district school training, the doctor, by walking to and from Shelbyville each day, managed to spend some time in the High school. For a period of three years in his young manhood he engaged in clerking, but desisted through ill health. In 1878 he entered the Miami Medical college and also the office of Dr. Thos. L. Catherwood; three years later he was graduated with high honors, securing a general rank of ninety-eight per cent in all his studies.

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and being chosen valedictorian of his class which was quite an honor.

Through the influence of Dr. Catherwood, most probably, he began his professional career in this city. That "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country" is usually the case, yet Dr. Bivins has come to rank among the first and best practitioners in the county. In the month of October, 1881, he was joined in marriage to Miss Clara B. Scovil, of Shelbyville. To them were born three children—Juanita M., Mabel C., and Warren S. The death of Mrs. Bivins occurred in September, 1891. The children are all living and in school, and reside with their father in his home on North Broadway. Besides his professional work, the doctor is engaged in real estate business with his brother, H. L., and is the owner of considerable valuable property. He was reared by staunch Methodist parents; in the Methodist Episcopal church he takes an active part, showing particular interest in the work of the Epworth League and Sunday school. He has held municipal positions of public honor and trust; we have found him to be a gentleman of uniform courtesy, with a vivacious, social temperament, and we gladly reckon him among our friends. His practice has been wide and successful, which fact stamps its own approval upon the doctor's work.

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PETER DIDDEA.

Peter Diddea was born of German parentage in Pottsville, Pa., June 1st, 1849. The name of his father was Christian, and the maiden name of his mother, Margaret Geremahley. The father was a coal miner by occupation and had a place among the overseers. He moved to Chicago when Peter was a small child, and afterward to

Sheffield, this state, where he again found employment in a mine. In the year 1865 he moved to Stewardson and purchased a farm of eighty acres. His death occurred six years later, viz., in 1871. Mrs. Diddea still lives and is a resident of Effingham.

In addition to the ordinary district school education, our subject spent some time in the college at Teutopolis; this doubtless served to fit him for the business successes which he has achieved in these later years. He began commercial life for himself in 1871. The only capital of which he was possessed was that inherent in himself and in the person of a loyal wife. In August of the year last named he was married to Miss Elizabeth A. Leffler, a native of Ohio. Together they settled upon a leased farm, rearing the humble log cabin in which they lived. Five children, three of whom died in infancy, were born to them. The two living are: Miss Ida, who is house-keeper for her father, the faithful mother having died in 1893; and Emma, now Mrs. Wesley Duddleston, of Stewardson.

For one year Mr. Diddea conducted an implement business in Stewardson with Mr. G. S. Baldwin as partner, and, then dissolving the partnership, he entered another to trade in the same line of merchandise, with Mr. George W. Voris. After two years Mr. Diddea was made assignee to look after the interests of a stock of hardware; he then went in the firm of York, Mautz & Diddea. After one year Mr. York dropped out of the partnership, and the remaining two conducted the business for a period of twelve years. While with Mr. Mautz, Mr. Diddea owned an interest in a livery stable at Altamont and a half interest in his present establishment in Shelbyville. In 1893 he came to this city and has since become the sole owner and manager of the business here. He keeps between twenty and thirty

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horses and numerous fine rigs and turnouts. His prices are reasonable and all may feel assured of courteous and satisfactory treatment. Besides this livery enterprise he conducts three excellent farms, and is the owner of above five hundred acres of good land. He is gradually becoming quite an extensive stock raiser and dealer. In politics Mr. Diddea is a democrat. At the time he cast his first ballot he was elected constable and until business cares precluded the possibility of taking an active part in political affairs he was never without a public office. He is a member of the Masonic and K. of P. orders, besides several insurance organizations. The life of our subject illustrates what is possible in the line of financial success to those who are frugal and industrious. As we have stated, he began with nothing and is now well-to-do. In addition to this, he bears a good name throughout the county. We find him kind, approachable and obliging, and account him among our friends.

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HOMER S. CORLEY, M. D.

The subject of this review was born in Cold Spring township, Shelby county, on the 28th day of August, A. D. 1871. His father, W. W. Corley, was a native of Kentucky, and came to this state in 1823, being 2 years old; and his mother was born one mile west of Shelbyville, in 1834. The Corleys settled upon land which is remembered as the "Old Ridge camp ground." Here they engaged in general farming and stock raising. The Pughs or mother's parents settled about one and one-half miles northeast, on the Wakefield farm. The Wakefields were the first settlers in Shelby county.

Mr. Corley correctly reads the signs of the times, and saw the increasing importance of

educational training; having become somewhat opulent through the successful management of his farm, he moved into the City of Shelbyville, that his children might have the benefits of a graded school. Thus it occurred that Homer's early years were spent in the rugged pursuits of a farmer's son, and in attendance upon the district school; while, somewhat later, during his youth, he enjoyed better privileges. For a period of four years he further stored his mind with the treasures of knowledge in the halls of the Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, Illinois. Subsequently, for one semester, he attended the Brown Business College, and then matriculated with the Missouri Medical College, of St. Louis, (now the Washington University), and was graduated from that institution in the class of '97; thus were laid, broad and deep, the foundations of that generous culture which now characterizes the man. He began the practice of his chosen profession in Tower Hill the summer after his graduation. On the 14th day of February, 1900, he was joined in marriage with Miss Edith E., the accomplished daughter of Dr. J. J. Conner, of Pana, Illinois. The doctor in addition to his practice, conducts the home farm of one hundred sixty acres, which is situated about four miles south of Tower Hill. For about two years he was a partner in a furniture business in Le Roy, Ill., viz., from 1894-1896. The deaths of the doctor's parents, who lived to rank among the old and best-known citizens of the county, occurred in the years (father) March 20, 1890; and (mother) January 20, 1891. Our subject is Past Master of the Masonic lodge of Tower Hill, No. 493, and is also present Master of the same. He is a member of the K. of P. order, Merlin lodge, No. 202, at Le Roy, and also of A. I. chapter Sigma Chi fraternity, Bloomington, Illinois. He is Past Sachem in the Improved Order of

HENRY MILLER.



FINDLEY BEHRENS.



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Redmen, Shingewassa tribe, No. 116, and a member of Past Sachem's association. In politics he is a republican, but not a bitter partisan. For three years he has been committeeman for his township. For a period of two years he has been president of the Village Board of Health. He is a member of the Central Illinois Medical society and ranks well in his profession. We have found him to be a gentleman pleasant to meet, cultured, refined and possessed of public spirit. His practice is increasingly large, as is also the circle of his friends. Both the doctor and his estimable wife are in the first rank in social circles, and we predict for them lives of increasing usefulness, happiness and success. The name Corley is to remain a prominent one in the annals of Shelby county.

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FINDLEY BEHYMER.

(An Autobiography.)

Findley Behymer is the son of Samuel Behymer, Sr., who was a native of Virginia, and of German descent. He resided with his parents till grown to manhood, and then emigrated from Fredericksburg, Va., to a place near the present site of Cincinnati; this was just prior to the admission of Ohio as a state. Here Father Behymer made a land purchase from Col. Lucas, of Revolutionary fame; this comprised a military tract of two thousand acres bordering on the Ohio river, about fifteen miles above Low Santeeville, now Cincinnati. Hamilton and Lucas counties divide on the southwest corner of this tract. Father settled upon this survey with his young Virginian wife, Miss Catherine Logan. His nearest neighbor, the father of his wife, lived two miles distant; the country be-

tween being frequently occupied by prowling savages and fierce animals. Six children were born into this frontier home; two boys and four girls. After about twenty years of toil in which many primeval conditions were altered by needed improvements, the wife's health began to fail and she crossed the borders of the unseen country. About 1818, father was subsequently married to a Yankee lady, Miss Mary Parvin. Nine children were the offspring of this union, all boys, of which I am the seventh. My birth took place in Clermont county, Ohio, March 11th, 1829. My opportunities for an education were limited to the district school of that early day. When I was seventeen years of age, father, who had been an invalid for several years, passed to his upper estate. A few months prior to the loss of my father, I had lived as an apprentice to a carpenter and joiner; after three years, I served one year as foreman for my employer. In 1852 I went to Indianapolis and there worked upon the Bates hotel, the Asylum for the Blind, the Capitol, etc. I afterward returned to Cincinnati and resumed my trade in that city.

On January 5th, 1854, I was married to Mrs. Susan Leach Asheraft, the eldest daughter of John and Nancy Leach, then of Clermont county, Ohio. Previous to my marriage I had purchased a home where I resided until the spring of 1857, when I sold out and moved by stream to Keokuk, Iowa. Soon after reaching the above place a cyclone completely ruined the town and in the depression which followed I moved to Shelbyville, Illinois. Here I arrived June 9th, 1857, and at once took up the work of my trade, which I continued till 1862. At Lincoln's call for 100,000 volunteers I responded and assisted in organizing Co. B, of the 115th Ill. Inf. I was elected first corporal. Afterward I was pro-

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moted, under the hand of Col. Moore, for meritorious conduct under dangerous circumstances, to the rank of sergeant. Was ever with my company save at short intervals; I served as a commissioned officer in the battle of Wanhachie, Tenn., October 29th, 1863, and later commanded the regiment on New Year's day, 1864, while the officers were celebrating at a town a few miles away.

In 1864, June 2d, I was appointed Color Bearer and was specially commended for gallant conduct in the battle of Nashville. When the regiment was mustered out I returned to Shelbyville, and to my former house which had stood incomplete through those years of service, but which had been watched over and cared for by an anxious and loving wife. I completed my house and then resumed the labors of my trade in a public manner. I was named by the citizens as one of the charter members of the School Board in the act of the legislature which created the "Shelbyville Graded School." The charter was granted May 7th, 1869, and under this the Main street school building was erected.

I took an active part in the organization of the Shelby County Veteran association, and was appointed on the committee to draft constitution and by-laws; when our work was presented it was adopted without alteration. Was chosen by Commander E. H. Martin, of Cyrus Hall Post, G. A. R., as one of a committee of three to raise funds with which to place a suitable memorial window in the First M. E. church. This enterprise was successfully consummated and today the beautiful south-front window may be seen by all, bearing a triune inscription which is doubtless well-pleasing to the Creator and Founder of all nations.

JAMES BOYS.

It is an important duty to honor and perpetuate, as far as is possible, the memory of the citizen, who, by his blameless and honorable life, has reflected credit upon the region in which he has lived. His example, in whatever field his work may have been done, thus stands as an object lesson to those who come after him, and though dead he yet speaks.

James Boys, of whom we write, was such a man, and bore such a character, leaving to his children and acquaintances an example which commands respect and emulation. Mr. Boys was born in Durbin county, Indiana, on the 26th day of June, 1827, the same year in which this county was organized. His parents were Alexander and Virginia (Bradley) Boys, who were born, respectively, in Ohio and "Old Virginia," Mr. Boys being of Irish descent, and Mrs. Boys of Scotch parentage. When but seven years of age, James came with his parents to Vermilion county, this state, where they settled upon a farm, and for three years engaged in the improvement of the same. At the expiration of that time they removed to Shelby county, and procured land in Okaw township. These parents remained in Shelby until their deaths, which occurred in 1881, within two days of each other. They were laid to rest at the same time, and in the same grave, thus being united in death as they had been in life.

James Boys is one of thirteen children born to the parents above mentioned, three of whom died before reaching maturity. He spent his early life on his father's farm, and was taught in the common schools of his neighborhood, having attended the first school ever held in Okaw township.

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On the 15th of October, 1849, Mr. Boys was married to Miss Sarah, daughter of Thomas Hardy. She was a native of Fairfield county, Ohio, twenty-two years before. After his marriage, Mr. Boys purchased land which is now within the corporate limits of Shelbyville, but two years later settled upon land in Ridge township, where he remained until his death, December 21, 1897, and where his loved wife died on the 11th of November of the year previous. At the time of his marriage Mr. Boys was not rich in this world's goods, but, with his young wife, possessed indomitable energy and courage, and in the years following he accumulated considerable property, ultimately owning 800 acres of fine farming land, 500 of which were included in the farm upon which he resided, and upon which he still remained, though being retired for some few years previous to his demise.

Mr. and Mrs. Boys were the parents of nine children, five of whom are still living, and are as follows: John, W., whose biography appears in this volume; Mary, who is the wife of Robert Weakly, a prosperous farmer of Ridge township; James M., a sketch of whom also appears upon another page of this book; Thomas H., a physician of St. Louis, who married Miss Lucy Fisher, of Flat Branch township; and C. F., also living in St. Louis, and who married Miss Della Risacker, of Shelbyville.

Mr. Boys was a democrat in politics, and cast his vote and influence with that party for years. He held the office of road commissioner and school director for some years, but refused to accept any office which would necessitate his relinquishing his attention to his private business affairs. Both Mr. Boys and his wife were prominent members of the Methodist church, South, and were earnest supporters of the same. Mainly through the generosity of Mr. Boys, a

church of that denomination was erected near his home. After long years of uprightness, this worthy couple are now enjoying the "crown of righteousness" which the Lord hath given them.

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JAMES M. BOYS.

Of James M. Boys we write this biography, one of the boys born to Mr. and Mrs. James Boys, whose memorial biography appears among the memoirs in this volume. He was born on the farm in Ridge township, Shelby county, thirty-six years ago, and has ever lived within a few miles of his birthplace. His education in the common schools, and his outside reading and observation have made of him a well-educated man in agricultural lines and other affairs. While a young man, he assisted in the conduct of his father's farm, and in 1867 removed to the Hager farm, which he rented for a period of three years. His farming here was exceptionally successful, and in one season he sold \$1800 worth of wheat from that farm. From 1890 to 1892, he tilled a part of his father's farm and 80 acres adjoining, which he purchased with his "wheat money," referred to above. This is the 80 acres in section 26, on which he now lives. Mr. Boys received 80 acres from his father, and subsequently purchased 80 acres, which now makes him the possessor of 240 acres of rich farming land, all of which, he, himself farms. In addition to this work, he conducts a threshing business which he began in the fall of 1897, and at which he is very successful, securing a great deal of threshing through his section of the county. In the last season, which was the best of all, he did more than a thousand dollars' worth of business in that line. In 1899, Mr. Boys sold more than \$1,800 worth of broom corn, the product of only sixty

BIOGRAPHIES.

acres of his land. In 1897, he erected the house in which he resides, and which, for appearance and convenience, ranks amongst the best in the county. It has modern appliances, and running water inside, which is not found in very many of the dwellings outside of city limits. The barn, which is a fine, large one, was built in 1893.

Miss Ida K. Rogers, of Vandalia, Illinois, was the young lady who, by her charming manner, captivated Mr. Boys, who, succumbing to her power quite willingly, led her to Hymen's altar in the year of 1886. Miss Rogers was the daughter of W. H. and Phebe (Askins) Rogers. But one child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Boys, a son, Glen V., born on the 18th of June, 1890, and who is attending school. Both Mr. Boys and his estimable wife are members of the Court of Honor.

Mr. Boys is what is commonly termed a "stiff democrat," believing in the doctrines set forth by that party, with all his heart, and lending all his influence and vote to its success. By his neighbors he is looked upon with favor and as one who is of upright character and untiring energy in pursuit of that which will secure to himself and family greater happiness and enjoyment of life.

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JOHN W. BOYS.

The man of whom we write this sketch, was born on the 18th day of March, 1857, the son of James Boys, a memoir of whom appears in this volume. His boyhood was spent upon the farm of the father, and his education was begun in the district schools of his neighborhood. Later in life, having passed through the grades of the common schools, he spent two years in careful and persistent study in the High school of Shel-

byville, and acquired an education which has been ever helpful to him in his agricultural pursuits, as well as in the discharge of his duties as a public officer, of which we will speak later.

When 22 years of age he began farming, independently, on 80 acres of land previously purchased by him, in Okaw township. At the expiration of two years he sold his farm, and purchased what is known as the Hager farm, in Ridge township. For three years after he married he lived there, and then disposed of the place, buying in its stead a farm in Section 27, of the same township, upon which he still resides. By honest endeavor and intelligent working out of ideas and plans relating to the tilling of the soil, Mr. Boys has made a success of farming, and is today possessed of about 455 acres of most excellent land. Of this, he, himself, works about 250 acres, while he has the balance of it let to tenants. In 1896, Mr. Boys sustained a considerable loss, in the burning of his house, the value of which was only partially covered by insurance; but in the same summer, however, he erected his present comfortable and substantial dwelling, which is built in modern design, and presents a very pleasing appearance.

Mr. Boys' wife was Miss Katie E. Boyce, of Mt. Vernon, Indiana. Her parents were Washington and Hattie Boyce, the maiden name of her mother being Alldredge. Mr and Mrs. Boys have been the parents of seven children, six of whom are still living and are at home with their parents.

"There is no fireside, howe'er defended,
But has one vacant chair,"

is true of this home, for eleven years ago occurred the death of Washington Boys, then but five years of age. We name those who are living in

JOHN ANGLES.



JOHN BOYS.



BIOGRAPHIES.

the order of their birth, as follows: T. DeWitt, named for Talmage; Wilkinson P., Fabian, Floy and Wesley.

Mr. Boys has ever been identified with the democrats in politics, and is prominent in political circles. He has been honored by his neighbors, in being elected supervisor from his township, a position which he now holds, together with the responsible office of treasurer of his school district. He has been an incumbent of the office of township clerk, and also township collector, two positions of trust which he occupied and the duties of which he discharged to the eminent satisfaction of his constituents.

Fraternally, Mr. Boys is an honored member of the F. & A. M. lodge. He and his family are esteemed by their neighbors, and occupy a very warm place in the hearts of their friends.

* * * *

ALVA P. WEAKLY.

Ohio bears the distinction of having supplied more presidents to the Union than any other state, and it has doubtless furnished to Shelby county more pioneers than have come from any other one state. By no means the least among these were Samuel and Maria (Fetters) Weakly, who, in the spring of 1852, occupied fourteen days in driving through from Pickaway county, Ohio, to Ridge township, in this county. Here they rented a farm, upon which they lived until the fall of that year, when they bought a farm and settled upon it, remaining there until their deaths; that of Mr. Weakly occurring in 1890, and Mrs. Weakly dying in 1860. These people were the parents of ten children, nine of whom are still living; and Alva P. Weakly, of whom we write this sketch was the second son.

Alva was born in the Ohio home, in 1842, and has a very vivid recollection of the long overland journey above referred to, when he was but ten years of age. One incident, in particular, of the trip will never be effaced from his memory. In fording Eel river, they inadvertently drove into quicksand which abounded along the edge of the water, and it was only by the assistance of others that they were enabled to safely cross.

The "schooling" of this boy was received in the districts of his boyhood homes, and he was well drilled in the studies taken up in those early days. At the time of his coming to Shelby county, there were no churches near his home, and the circuit preachers held their services in the school houses, thus illustrating that religion and education go hand in hand. In Shelbyville, was the nearest physician, and when it became necessary to come to this place for any purpose, they came in a bee-line across the prairie, as there was no road then established. At that time the site upon which the First National bank now stands, was occupied by a steam saw mill. Among these frontier-like environments, Alva grew to be a stalwart, happy-hearted young man, always ready to perform his share and more, of the agricultural toil. After settling upon his father's farm for six or seven years, he purchased 80 acres near by, and began tilling the soil on his own behalf. This farm in which there were at first but 80 acres, now contains 335; Mr. Weakly having, by purchase, increased it to its present dimensions, and has made it one of the most desirable pieces of real estate in Shelby county. The house in which he now resides is not more than a mile and a half from where the father located upon his advent in the county. This large and handsome residence, of modern architecture, and the spacious barns, were built by Mr.

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Weakly, and are indeed an ornament to the section of the county in which they stand.

In 1864, Miss Mary Miller became the wife of Mr. Weakly, and has until the present, been the partner of his domestic felicity, and has shared with him the universal respect and goodwill of their large circle of friends and neighbors; and the hospitality of the Weakly home is authenticated by many who have enjoyed it. Mrs. Weakly was the daughter of C. P. and Catherine (Spears) Miller, of Ridge township, and was the fifth child of her parents. To Mr. and Mrs. Weakly have been born seven children, who all live, and are a credit to the parents who bore them.

Cyrus S. is a prosperous farmer of Obed, and is married to Clara Moll, of that place; Oscar M. is still at home, and assists his father in the conduct of the farm; William E. is a dry goods merchant at Lakewood; Elmer rents a farm near his father's, and is married to Olive a daughter of one of the Klausner Brothers, of Shelbyville; Laura A. is the wife of Mr. J. Trout, who is a partner of Wm. Weakly, at Lakewood; Alta is the wife of George Seaman, a druggist of Shelbyville; and Emory A. is a bright lad who helps to make the home happy, and attends school.

Mr. Weakly is a republican in polities, and cast his first vote for "Honest Abe," of whom he was a great admirer. When but 18 years of age he united with the United Brethren church, and has been a faithful member of the same to the present time. His wife also became a member of this church in her girlhood, and together they discharge their religious duties, as well as those of a more secular nature.

Mr. Weakly is a public-spirited citizen, and throughout the section of the county in which he lives he bears an enviable reputation for keen

business tact and foresight, and there is perhaps no man in his township whose advice and counsel are more eagerly sought, and more closely followed. Mr. and Mrs. Weakly are not yet old in years, but, enjoying to the full the blessings of life, they are journeying happily toward an honorable old age, and a final recompense in Elysium, for lives of uprightness and good deeds.

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ROBERT HERRON.

For nearly a half century the man whose name heads this sketch has been identified with the interests of Shelby county. He was born in Lowden county, Virginia, on the 22d of March, 1818. He was the eldest of nine children, six of whom are still living. The parents were William Henry Herron, and Melinda (Combs) Herron, both natives of Virginia. The father was a blacksmith by trade, and emigrated to Ohio while Robert was but an infant. In after years Robert assisted his father in the shop, but was never pleased with the work.

The district school was the only one attended by our subject, but he made good use of his time while there. Mr. Herron has engaged in various pursuits, the first of which was agricultural, in Perry county, Ohio. He afterward engaged in the grocery business in Licken county. Later, he sold out and established himself in a hotel, which he subsequently sold, and then purchased a saw mill. He finally resumed farming, at which he continued in Ohio, until 1852, when he sold his farm and came to Windsor township, in this county. Thirteen years later, in 1865, Mr. Herron removed to the farm upon which he still lives, 240 acres in section 23, Okaw township.

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In 1837, Mr. Herron was united in marriage to Miss Jane Maddox, of Licken county, Ohio. She was the daughter of Bennett and Elizabeth (Menefee) Maddox, and was born January 20, 1817, in Virginia. The names of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Herron are as follows: David, Leroy, Melinda, Charles and May Elizabeth, living; Milton, William B., Julia A., John Bennett, deceased. Personal sketches of the first two named may be found below this one.

When Mr. and Mrs. Herron took up their abode in Shelby county, it was not so thickly populated nor extensively cultivated as now. Wild turkeys, deer, and prairie wolves abounded in great numbers, and furnished plenty of sport for Mr. Herron, who thoroughly enjoyed hunting. Those were the days, too, of the plow with wooden mould-boards, reference to which is made elsewhere in this volume, and Mr. Herron used one of them on his farm, together with other crude agricultural implements. The house in which he and his wife live is about eighty years old, and is in a fair state of preservation. One notable fact in connection with the structure, is that the logs of which the side walls are built, are thirty-six feet long. Perhaps no other house in Illinois is built of logs of such length. The house also contains one of the genuine old fireplaces built of stone.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Herron are genial, kindly-dispositioned people, and have ever enjoyed pretty good health. Even at their advanced age their memory, eyesight and hearing are remarkably good, Mr. Herron being able to read without glasses. He has been a life-long democrat, always upholding the principles and doctrines of that political party. These worthy old people are enjoying their declining years, conscious of lives well lived, and are looking "toward the setting of the sun" with no fear or disquietude.

DAVID C. HERRON.

David C. Herron, of whom we write this sketch, was born in the county of Licken, Ohio, April 21, 1840. His parentage may be found in the sketch immediately preceding this one. When twelve years of age he came with his parents to Illinois, driving through with horses in eighteen days. They were ferried across the Wabash river at Terre Haute. The Big Four bridge at that place was just being built. The family arrived in Illinois two years ahead of the railroad, and here they found prairie grass so high that a man in a lumber wagon could just see over the top of it. They settled on a farm where Fletcher chapel now stands, in Windsor township.

Mr. Herron's education was received where the great majority of people receive theirs—in the common, district schools. In the years 1862 and 1863 he worked for W. K. Baker, then, returning home, remained on the farm of his father until his marriage, which occurred November 14, 1867. Miss Mary E. Quigley was the bride, and the marriage was solemnized on the place where they now reside. Mrs. Herron's parents were James H. and Lydia (Murphy) Quigley, of the counties of Tuscarawas and Belmont, Ohio, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Herron have been parents of nine children, two of whom died in infancy. The names of the others are as follows: Martin L., who married Miss Effie Richardson, and is now a merchant of Shelbyville; Edward N., who married Miss Jane Goddard, lives in Shelbyville, and is one of the firm of Herron Brothers; Charles, who died when eighteen years of age; William F.; Della M.; Homer A.; Murphy; and Bertha E. The first five named are or have been teachers in the schools of Shelby county.

For twenty-three years Mr. and Mrs. Her-

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ron have resided in their present home, and for eighteen years have owned it. Mr. Herron is a member of no secret society, but is a democrat in polities, as was his father before him. Mrs. Herron is a faithful member of the Methodist church, and both she and her husband stand well in the esteem of the community in which they reside.

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LEROY HERRON.

Leroy Herron, born in Perry county, Ohio, June 13, 1843, is the second son of Robert Herron, whose biography precedes this one. It was when he was but eight years old that he was brought by his parents to Illinois, and it was here, in the common schools of Shelby county, that he received his education.

He has ever been an agriculturist, and when he first left home it was to work on a farm in Rural township, when he was twenty-one years old. In 1867 he rented a farm in section 24 of Okaw township, upon which he continued as tenant for only one year. He then removed to the farm where he has lived ever since, which is a tract of seventy acres, originally a part of his father's farm. In connection with his farming Mr. Herron has threshed grain throughout his section of the county for twenty-two successive years, and during that time has worn out two threshing machines.

On the 27th of April, 1866, Mr. Herron was happily married to Miss Margaret L. Tull, of Windsor township, a daughter of Josiah B. and Margaret L. (Butler) Tull. The union was blessed by the birth of six children, the names of whom we give, as follows: Margaret Jane, who is married to James Moyer, a farmer of Okaw township; Ava E., who died when eight-

teen years of age; William D and Robert J., who are popular teachers of the county; Gertrude and Barton L., who are at home with their parents.

Leroy Herron is, like his father and brothers, a democrat in polities, and is ever active in the support of the principles of the party to which he renders allegiance. The entire family is highly respected, and the family circle is a happy one.

* * * *

D. M. DUDDLESTEN.

The subject of this sketch was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, in the year 1851. His father, Nelson, was a native of Ohio; his mother, Margaret (Markwood), was born in Virginia. The one of whom we write (D. M.) was reared upon a farm, and attended school in his native district, about six miles from Lancaster. When he was nine years of age, his parents emigrated to this state, reaching Shelbyville in October, 1864. They settled on a farm in Prairie township, and here our subject grew to manhood, reared, as other farm boys, to hard work. In the year 1874, he was married to Miss Louisa, daughter of Isaac and Katrina Triee. Immediately after his marriage he began farming for himself, in which occupation he continued until his removal to Stewardson in 1884. In the place last named, Mr. Duddlestien established a brick and tile manufactory which he still operates. This enterprise has assumed large proportions; three kilns are used, and from twenty-eight to thirty-five kilnfuls are turned out each year. Such part of this product as is not consumed in Stewardson, is shipped to the adjacent territory.

Mr. and Mrs. Duddlestien are the parents of six children: Walter, who died in infancy, W.

DR. JOHN C. WESTERVELT.



SAMUEL H. WEBSTER.



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C., Stella, Blanch, Maude, and John C. This entire family are (except the youngest) members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and stand well in the religious and social life of the community in which they reside. Mr. Duddleston may be regarded as a man successful in business, and in this respect is an example of the achievements of frugality and honest toil. It is with genuine pleasure that we pen the biography of those, who from the common walks of life, rise to places of business success and prominence; such illustrations but prove the possible, yea certain rewards in store for "those who labor and who wait."

* * * *

SAMUEL H. WEBSTER.

Samuel Hunter Webster came from that sturdy New England ancestry which formed the bone and sinew of the young republic. Men of spirit, judgment, stern religious convictions and unflinching integrity, they laid the foundations for their country's future greatness.

At the age of twenty-one, his father, Russell B. Webster, set out from the parental fireside at Otis, Mass., to win his fortune. It was before the time of railroads, and the entire journey of over six hundred miles was accomplished on foot. In those days an unbroken wilderness, inhabited by Indians and wild animals, stretched away to the west, but the young man and his comrades possessed hearts of oak, and in due time reached the shore of lake Erie, joining a settlement called Wellington, near Cleveland. It was located in the wild belt of forest known as the Western Reserve, or Fire Lands, a tract of land ceded to Connecticut to indemnify her for towns burned in the war with England. Habitutions were so scarce that they took turns walking

nine miles to the nearest house each week to get their bread baked.

Russell Webster walked back to the Bay state for his father and mother, and again in 1824 for his bride, Orpha H. Hunter, bringing his possessions with an ox team. He was a second cousin to Noah Webster of dictionary fame.

Samuel Hunter Webster, the subject of this sketch, first saw the light at Wellington, Ohio, September 25, 1825. He was one of the first children born in that region, and was the eldest of a family of seven boys and one girl. The sister, Mary Lorette Webster, and a brother, David Philander Webster, died in infancy, and Eldad Bidwell Webster reached the age of twenty-nine. Three of the brothers bore arms in the Civil war. Edward Fairfield Webster enlisted in the Second Ohio infantry, and gained a lieutenancy. Since then he has been a leading member of the Horr-Warner company, in his native town. Milton Leander Webster enlisted in the 14th Illinois cavalry which chose him captain. He was wounded in the service, and died at Castalia, Iowa, in 1900. Philander Russell Webster raised a company for the 143rd Illinois infantry, going into the field as captain. At the close of the war he entered the firm of S. H. Webster & Co. He was elected mayor of Shelbyville for one term, dying in 1884. With the tide of gold-seekers which swept over the plains in 1858, William Wilcox Webster went to Colorado, where for over thirty years, he was extensively interested in mining and cattle raising. He was the first Lieutenant-Governor of the Centennial state. His present home is Pasadena, California.

Samuel Hunter Webster, schooled to toil and privation, very early learned the lesson of self-reliance. When but a boy of nine he sold two yokes of oxen at Detroit to General Cass.

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He declined to take the general's check because he did not know him. After obtaining a common school education, he entered a select school conducted by Professor Hall, of Oberlin. He taught for two years and embarked at the age of twenty in the business of shipping fruit, butter and cheese to ports on lake Michigan. After filling the post of assistant postmaster at Wellington under his father, he went to Cleveland and engaged in the wholesale notion business, delivering his goods personally by wagon. His territory embraced a large strip of northern Ohio, and this period was enlivened with many thrilling experiences.

In 1856 he married Lucy Ann Jagger, the eldest daughter of Elmius H. and Hannah M. Jagger at Bath, Summit county, Ohio, and in the same year came to Shelbyville and established the firm of Webster & Jagger, which sold general merchandise and implements, and bought live stock and grain. At that time Shelbyville was a mere village. During that year the Terre Haute and Alton railroad had been completed, and the station located at Moulton. A box car constituted the station at Mattoon, and Windsor was not even thought of. He continued in business on the same spot for thirty-one years. In 1864 the firm was changed to S. H. Webster & Co., including Philander R. Webster and Horace L. Martin. Mr. Martin retired in 1872 to edit the "Union," and in 1887 Charles M. and Leverett S. Webster succeeded to the business as Webster Bros.

In politics Mr. Webster has been a life-long republican. He has ever taken an earnest and active interest in politics, contributing liberally of both time and means for his party's support. He cast his first vote for General Taylor. In 1878 he was appointed postmaster at Shelbyville by

President Hayes to succeed Cyrus Hall, and by President Arthur for a second term.

To him were born five children, Charles Manley Webster, Leverett Samuel Webster, Mary Lorette Webster, Ada Estelle Webster, and Lucy Belle Webster, the latter dying when but a few months old. The first daughter, Mary Lorette, was married to Dr. J. C. Westervelt. Charles Manley, the eldest son, was wedded to Miss Clara Cairns, and Ada Estelle became the wife of Mills E. Norton, of Winsted, Conn.

Mr. Webster has always been regarded as a broad-minded, liberal-hearted, public-spirited citizen, and enjoys the deepest respect of all who know him. Always the first in every good work, he considered no sacrifice too great for the good of the community, and the needy and unfortunate could at all times count upon his generous sympathy and support. Shelbyville has never had a better friend than he. His good nature is phenomenal, and his love of humor profound. Few men are better versed in contemporary history, and none take a livelier interest in current events the world over. In the ripe years of age, he can look back with pride upon a life of usefulness and tireless activity worthy of the highest meed of praise.

* * * *

JOHN CAIRNS.

The genial gentleman who is the superintendent of Shelby county's greatest mine, is a native of Ayershire, Scotland, having been born there on the 30th day of May, 1865. His parents were John and Agnes (Leighton) Cairns. At the age of twelve years our subject suffered the loss of his mother, and one year later he began work in the iron mines of his native shire. His only educational opportunities were limited to

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the common school; indeed, his education is of the practical type, obtained in the school of life. When sixteen years of age, he, with his father, left the land of his birth, and came to Coal City, Illinois. For three years he worked in the mines there, and thence removed to the state of Iowa.

From Iowa he went to Colorado where for seven years he continued in the one work of his life. While in the west he was made overseer of a mine, and gradually developed a fitness for, and knowledge of all kinds of mining. From the mines of the great Rockies he came here to Moweaqua, where ever since he has been in charge of the mine. Mr. Cairns has been twice married; first to Miss Kate Gibson, of Iowa. The marriage took place in 1866; two children who died in infancy were born to them. After the loss of his girl-wife he was subsequently married on the 4th day of April, 1898, to Miss Mary Gibson, a sister of his former wife. There is one child in the home—Master Karl Cairns, born on the 25th day of January, 1899.

In 1900 Mr. Cairns built a fine residence on Walnut street where he now resides. Politically he is a republican; fraternally an Odd Fellow and Knight of Pythias. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. The father of our subject died here in Moweaqua in the year 1896. The possible achievements of manly toil and honest living are clearly exemplified in the life of Mr. Cairns. His present place of eminence and trust is the result of his own persistent and wisely-directed efforts.

* * * *

JOHN ANGLIN.

John Anglin, the present (1901) democratic nominee for mayor of Shelbyville, was born in Pana, Illinois, September 5th, 1856. His parents

were Zephaniah and Mary (Igo) Anglin, natives of Virginia and Ohio, respectively. Mr. Anglin, Sr., was a wagon-maker by trade, but of him John has no remembrance; the father died when our subject was less than three months of age. The home being one in which wealth was unknown, John was obliged, at an early period in his life, to begin wage-earning. He did jobs of all kinds, thus lightening the financial burdens which rested so heavily upon his mother, and, at the age of thirteen, began caring for the family. It is needless to state that his days in school were few, yet, withal, his life has not been a failure. Before he was twenty-one years of age he rented a farm, and thus conducted a business for himself; subsequently he has been engaged in contracting, in carrying on a saw mill, and in the ice and cold storage business which he still conducts. On Christmas day, 1880, he was married to Nancy Fisher, a resident of this county. They are the parents of ten children, four of whom died in infancy or early childhood. The names of the others we subjoin: Lewis H., who is traveling salesman for the broom factory; John F., Daisy Naomi, David Z., Roy and Orville.

Mr. Anglin is a member of the I. O. O. F., and Modern Woodman lodges; he has also been a member of the city council for two terms, and street commissioner for two years. He is now branching out in a new line of work, and is, with the Boys Bros., the owner of the new broom factory. Mr. Anglin is the business manager for the new concern. It is to start with an output of thirty dozen brooms per day, and increase its capacity as rapidly as business conditions may warrant. Mr. Anglin is a pleasant man to meet and he must enjoy the esteem of his fellow-townsmen in order to be named for such a position as mayor of the city. He has ever voted with the democratic party.

BIOGRAPHIES.

JAMES D. COCHRAN.

James Cochran, the grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war; he served under Generals Marion and Morgan and received a severe wound in the battle of Cowpens. He came with his son, John, Jr., to this county in the year 1825, and settled in what is now Ash Grove township—it was then known as "Cochran's Grove." He died at the age of ninety-two years, and so far as is known, he is the only Revolutionary soldier who lies buried in Shelby county. John, Jr., was a native of Kentucky, and, after coming here, took for his wife Sarah Bateman, a young woman born in the Territory of Illinois. Their marriage was the first ever solemnized in this county, May 3d, 1827, was the date. To John and wife were born nine children, only two of whom are living. Mr. Cochran was a soldier in the Black Hawk war. James of whom we write was the third child in his father's family; he grew up as did other boys of that period, without much mental training, but was inured to physical toil and hardship. With some degree of pride he asserts that an uncle, Daniel Price, was one of the commissioners chosen to select the site for the seat of Shelby county. In addition to his work on the farm he learned the trade of a carpenter, and throughout his life has done some work in that line. November 28th, 1861, he enlisted in Co. A, 54th Ill. Vol., and not until October 15th, 1865, did he receive his discharge. His place was that of a corporal throughout his period of service; much of the time he was employed in scouting and skirmishing under Gen. Steele.

On the 12th day of November, after his discharge from the army, he was joined in marriage with Miss Anna L. Hull, of Windsor township. She with her father, Peter by name, came from Pennsylvania, in 1854. Three children blessed this union: John W., a resident of St. Elmo,

in the employ of the C. & E. I. railroad; Sarah M., who passed from earth at the age of twenty-two, in the very flower of her young womanhood; and James F., a fireman on the road above named. Since the war Mr. Cochran has been broken in health and has busied himself with such employment as he has been able to perform. For many years himself and wife have been devoted members of the Christian church. Their end is drawing on, but they are making toward a peaceful heaven; their lives have been long, and we have yet to hear them ill-spoken of. Surely they have not lived in vain.

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JOHN C. CALVERT.

The name Calvert will ever be remembered in the history of Shelby county. William, the father of the one of whom we write, was the second male white child born within the county's limits; the date of his birth being March 8th, 1827. Mr. Calvert lived until February, 1889, and was familiar with the entire history and development of the county. The mother of our subject was Martha E. Marts, born May 29th, 1832, in Sullivan county, Indiana. John was reared upon his father's farm in Ridge township, having been born there May 27th, 1833. He attended the district school, but through close application to his books received rather more than the education commonly furnished by such institutions. For a period of eighteen years he worked the home farm and was so successful in the management of this that in 1889 he purchased the farm in Ridge township—Section 11—which he still owns. September 13th, 1874, he was joined in marriage to Miss Lydia, daughter of Josiah Gardner of this county. This couple are the parents of seven children, four of whom died in infancy. The living are: John C., who assists his father in the management of the farm; Sidney C., and Cora M. Mr. Calvert moved to

BIOGRAPHIES.

Shelbyville in 1890 and engaged in the grocery business for a period of four years; ill health caused him to return to his farm. The esteem in which he is held by the community in which he lives may be inferred from the official positions which he has held, viz: Supervisor for two terms, Collector for two years, and Town Clerk for one year. Himself and wife are members of the Christian church; he is also a member of some fraternal and insurance organizations. A leading citizen of the township said to the writer, "I consider John Calvert as one of our very best men."

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CYRUS S. WEAKLY.

Thirty-four years ago the 19th of April, 1900, the one of whom we pen this sketch, Cyrus S. Weakly was born, in Ridge township, on the farm of his father, A. P. Weakly, of whom a biographical sketch appears on another page of this volume. His boyhood days passed much as do those of most boys—full of pleasures and little duties in the school and in the home, yet uneventful withal. He profited well by the instruction received in the district schools, and acquired a good, ordinary education. He was ever interested in farming, however, so did not pursue his studies beyond the common schools, but early began the tilling of the soil.

On the first of May following his twenty-first birthday, Mr. Weakly was united in marriage to Miss Clara Moll, of Obed, who was born January 8th, 1867. She was the daughter of Daniel Moll, a native of Pennsylvania, but one of the early pioneers of Shelby county. The maiden name of Mrs. Moll was Caroline Wolf, a native of Ohio.

For six months after his marriage Mr. Weakly lived upon his father's farm, renting and

working for himself 80 acres of it. This is the farm which his brother, Elmer, now works. In the fall of 1887, they removed to Obed, where they now live, settling upon a farm owned by the father of Mrs. Weakly. This farm was an extensive one, containing about three hundred ten acres. Upon this farm, in 1890, Mr. Weakly began the feeding of stock and has found it a very profitable and lucrative business. He conducts the enterprise systematically, and gets out of it the greatest profit obtainable. He is now feeding eighty-one head of cattle, and two hundred hogs; and he has purchased twelve thousand bushels of corn for this winter's feeding.

Mr. Weakly is a republican in politics, but has never sought any political office. He is, however, serving as the present school director of the district in which he lives. He is of a modest disposition, and yet is one of the most public-spirited men of his section of the county—always ready and even eager to aid by his influence and means any enterprise which is for the public good. He is a stockholder in the County Telephone company, and is in connection with the outside world by having a 'phone in his farm residence.

Mr. and Mrs. Weakly are members of the United Brethren church, and are faithful in the performance of their religious duties. They are known far and wide for their genial, cordial hospitality, and many are they who have found a hearty welcome in the Weakly home.

Four beautiful children have been born to this couple, and all are living to bless the home circle. Their names, in the order of their births, are as follows: Bessie, born April 16, 1883; Ruby May, born May 18, 1892; Lloyd, and Mary Hazel. Bessie and Ruby are both in school, and Mr. and Mrs. Weakly are justly proud of the whole four children.

BIOGRAPHIES.

WILLIAM WHITWORTH.

William Whitworth, who, as a sagacious, skillful farmer, has helped to make Shelby county a rich, well-developed agricultural centre, has at the same time acquired a valuable property, and not only owns a fine farm within the corporate limits of the city of Moweaqua, but has here a handsome, well-appointed residence, in which he lives in retirement from active business. He is a native of Perry county, Indiana, born May 25, 1838, a son of Abraham Whitworth, who was born in Virginia in 1807. The father of the latter, also named Abraham, was likewise a native of Virginia, and was the son of an Englishman, who came to this country and settled in the Old Dominion in colonial times, spending the remainder of his life there.

The grandfather of our subject went from his native state to Tennessee with his family in 1811, and after a two years' sojourn in the wilderness in that state, he proceeded northward into Breckenridge county, Kentucky, where he in time cleared a farm from the timber, and there closed his early pilgrimage. He married Nancy Board, who was born in Virginia and died in Kentucky.

The father of our subject was scarcely more than a babe when his parents took up their abode in Kentucky, and he grew to a vigorous manhood under the influences of the rough pioneer life of those days. When he became a young man he too became a pioneer, selecting the more newly settled state of Indiana as the scene of his operations, and he there took unto himself a wife—Miss Martha Gregory—uniting her life with his. She was also a native of Virginia, and was a daughter of Peter and Mary (Dobson) Gregory, natives of Virginia, the latter a daughter of William O. Dobson, also a Virginian. After marriage, Mr. Whitworth, who had formerly been a

pilot on a flat-boat that plied on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, commencing life at boating when quite young, turned his attention to farming. In 1861 he came to Illinois, and settled on a tract of land that he bought in Moweaqua township, located four miles east of the village, where he resided until his life was rounded out in death in July, 1864. His wife survived him until the following year, and then she too passed away, dying in the month of December. She was the mother of eight children that were reared to maturity.

The early life of our subject was passed amid the scenes of his birth. He came to Shelby county in 1858, and he began his career here by working out by the day or month. Prudently saving his earnings, in 1864 he invested in 80 acres of good farming land four and one-half miles northwest of the village of Moweaqua and later added to it 40 acres more. He resided on that place several years, devoting his energies to its improvement, and when he left it in 1886 to take up his abode in the city he had placed it under a high state of cultivation and had made of it a well-ordered farm. He came to Moweaqua in the year mentioned, bought property, and in 1890 erected his present commodious residence, which is built after plans drawn by himself and wife, is very conveniently arranged and is an ornament to the city. He also has a fine farm advantageously located within the limits of this municipality, which contains 64 acres of well-tilled land, and is amply supplied with buildings and everything needful for its successful cultivation.

Mr. Whitworth has been twice married. In 1861 he was wedded to Miss Sarah Lamb, a native of Richland county, Illinois. Their brief, but happy union was closed by her death in 1864. She left two children, Clara and Alice. Clara married William Landram and has two children.

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Alice married James Chance, and has four children. The present estimable wife of our subject, to whom he was united in marriage in 1866, was formerly Miss Isabella Doyle. She is a native of Macoupin county, this state, and a daughter of E. M. Doyle.

For some time prior to her marriage Mrs. Whitworth had acted as correspondent for newspapers, which training was now to serve her most faithfully. Her husband had been instrumental in founding a republican paper in Monoqua, which had been unsuccessfully published and edited by different persons. Mrs. Whitworth saw her opportunity and embraced it; she assumed the management of the paper, and put out her first number on the 11th day of October, 1894. Since the appearance of this first number the paper has steadily grown in favor among the people of the county, and today is one of the very foremost leading republican organs in this section. There is a subscription list of over eight hundred, and the present excellent standing of the paper is due to Mrs. Whitworth's indefatigable efforts and splendid ability. We have found her a versatile, entertaining lady.

Mr. Whitworth, as we have seen, has become one of the prosperous citizens of this county through the exercise of good mental and physical endowment. He is a gentleman of good principles and blameless life, who is justly held in high consideration by his neighbors and associates, and in him the Baptist church has a conscientious, right-living member, his wife also belonging to that church, and identifying herself with its best efforts to elevate the moral status of the community. As a loyal and true-heared citizen should, our subject interests himself in politics, and is a staunch adherent of the republican party.

JAS. A. AND MICHAEL MONTGOMERY.

The brothers whose names head this sketch bear a name well known throughout the county. They are two of ten children born into the home of Dr. John and Mariah Barbara (Allen) Montgomery.

Mr. Montgomery emigrated to Illinois with his father, Michael, and family, in 1822, and to Park Co., Ind., in 1824. In 1838 he was married to Mariah Barbara Allen, who was born in Scott county, Va., on the 8th of April, 1818, and moved with her parents, Thomas and Elizabeth (Summers) Allen to Fountain Co., Indiana, about 1826, locating on "Wolf Creek." Nothing now remains of the old double log house which they built, but the old log church still stands on the homestead, and near it is the oldest cemetery in that county, the first grave being dug for Isaac Allen in 1832. He was a Revolutionary soldier, and father of the Thomas Allen mentioned. Mrs. Allen's father was a patriot in the Revolution, as were also two of the brothers of Grandfather Michael Montgomery.

From Park county, Indiana, Dr. Montgomery brought his family to Westfield, Illinois, in 1859, and in April, 1864, removed to Windsor, this county. He was a self-made man and physician. Three weeks comprised all his school days, but he was a great student and made his medical books his companions. His death occurred May 2, 1889, and on December 5th, 1892, his faithful wife followed him to the great unseen. These Montgomerys trace their ancestry (unwritten) to three brothers, Scotch-Presbyterians, who came to this country from the north of Ireland during early colonization days.

JAMES

spent his boyhood days in attending school, and in working about his father's office and on a farm.

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After he had finished his work in the common schools, he further fitted himself for a life of usefulness by pursuing advanced studies in Lincoln University, Lincoln, Ill., and in the Westminster College, Fulton, Mo. For a period of fourteen years he was a successful teacher in public schools; for seven years, his labors were confined to his native state, and for a like time to the schools in this county. He taught for three years in the Windsor graded school, two of which he was the principal. He also had charge of the school in Stewardson for two years. He is now serving his second consecutive term as County Superintendent of Schools. In this capacity he has done good work; and the present excellent corps of teachers throughout the country are the product of his faithful and careful administration. The fairness and honesty of his official conduct we have never heard questioned.

He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and Woodman lodges, and both himself and brother are members of the A. F. & A. M. and K. of P. orders. In politics they have both been democrats throughout their lives; but never have they been bitter and narrow partisans.

MICHAEL

had, in addition to a district school training, a course of instruction in the Academy at Waveland, Ind., and at Westfield, Ill. He also engaged in teaching school, which calling he followed for some years, both here and in his native state. It may be because of his father's profession, Michael early developed a fondness for the drug business. He clerked some time in the store of G. W. Logan, in Windsor, in 1865-'66, and has been identified with the drug trade of that place for more than a third of a century.

Michael has been twice married; First to Miss Orphia McB. Kinney, of Windsor, in 1875. Two children were born of this marriage, Thur-

man and Ralph; his second marriage occurred in 1894, at which time Mrs. Hattie Grider, nee Odenweller, became his wife. Two children have been born to them; the first, little Ralph, almost three months old, was called to the better land; the other, Helen, nearly three years old, now cheers their home.

In addition to the lodges before named, Michael is also a Knight Templar. For twenty-five years he has been a devoted member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Both these brothers are affable, courteous, cultured gentlemen. They stand well in their respective communities and throughout the county. Our short acquaintanceship with them has but created the desire to make it life-long.

* * * *

WILLIAM H. CRAIG.

The greater portion of the following sketch was current in the papers at the time our subject was admitted to the bar.

From the Chicago Legal News, of December 18th, 1897:

"The State Board of Law Examiners consisted of Judge Wall, of Du Quoin, president; Mr. Julius Rosenthal, of Chicago, secretary and treasurer; Judge Branson, of Petersburg, Judge Wright, of Effingham, and Mr. Stearns, of Freeport, all gentlemen of culture and well qualified for the different positions to which they have been assigned.

"The first examination of law students before the State Board of Law Examiners has attracted the attention of members of the bench and bar throughout the state. This was the inauguration of the new rule adopted by the Supreme Court providing an extra year of study and additional scholastic requirements. The fact that the examiners themselves had promulgated



CHARLES M. FLEMING.

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no rules had a tendency to prevent many applicants from applying. When the board was declared open for the commencement of the examination at Mt. Vernon on December 7th, 1897, and the roll called, it was found that only six persons had the courage to appear before the board and attempt to take the examination. These were examined on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings by written and oral examinations, which ended at 1 o'clock Wednesday. The subjects upon which the applicants were examined embraced the whole range of subjects prescribed by the new rule of the Supreme Court. The Board of Examiners were in consultation from 2 until 11 o'clock on Wednesday, and from 9 until 10:30 on Thursday. When the applicants had been dismissed and the members of the board had passed upon the papers they found that five out of six had failed to pass the examination in accordance with the new rule of the Supreme Court, and that only one out of the six had succeeded in passing the new ordeal with flying colors, and that one was William H. Craig, of Shelbyville. It is certainly a great honor to Mr. Craig to have passed through this, the first examination under the new rule, successfully, and it can now be said of him that he is the first and only applicant that ever passed the examination of the new board.

"Of course members of the bar and students are more or less interested in knowing the facts relating to the life of Mr. Craig and the studies he has pursued, and how it happened that he was the only one that succeeded. He certainly, outside of the law, had a very general knowledge of men and things; was strong in mind and body and able to pass the ordeal.

"William H. Craig, the leader of the mighty host of applicants that is bound to follow hereafter along this line, was born in Shelbyville, Illinois, November 15th, 1863. His father, Dr. Wil-

liam T. Craig, came from Kentucky, and died when William was only nine months old. His mother, Emma McMorris, came from Ohio, and was of Scotch-Irish parentage. After the death of his father, the mother, William and his brother lived on the farm, William attending the country schools until the age of twelve, when he entered the public schools of Shelbyville and graduated from the High school at that place in May, 1880, at the age of 16. In 1881 and 1883, he took a partial course in the Wesleyan University at Bloomington. He was a clerk in a drug store one year; in 1884 and 1885, he worked one year in the office of J. W. Lloyd at abstracting; in 1886—7, he made a complete set of abstract indices of Shelby county, and since that time, with R. L. Garis, has done the principal abstract business in that county. In 1888, he was married to Pauline Penwell, daughter of Dr. Penwell. In 1892, he commenced studying law evenings and all the time during the day he could devote to it without injuring his business, under Judge T. E. Ames, then County Judge, now Circuit Judge. Mr. Craig read Blackstone, Kent, Story on Contracts, Story's Equity Pleading, Smith and Bishop on Contracts, Gould and Stevens on Pleadings, Bishop's Criminal Law, Greenleaf on Evidence, Underhill on Evidence, Martindale on Conveyances and Abstracts, Chitty's Pleadings and the Statutes of the State.

"Mr. Craig will devote his time to probate and chancery practice; but he will still continue his abstract business, which is a valuable property.

"The members of the legal profession and business men of Shelbyville speak in the highest terms of Mr. Craig as a gentleman of excellent judgment and the strictest integrity.

"Strictly speaking, Mr. Craig is the only one of his kind. He has passed through an ordeal that no one in the state was ever subjected to be-

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fore. A year had been added to the course and other requirements. He stands alone in his law examination, but it will not be long before he will have hundreds of followers."

Mr. and Mrs. Craig are the parents of two children: Lewis P., born October 2d, 1889, and Miriam, born December 16th, 1896. Mr. Craig dissolved partnership with Mr. Garis, above mentioned, on the 22d of March, 1901, and now is the sole manager of the abstract office; he also writes insurance. Fraternally he is a K. of P. and politically a republican. Mr. Craig is a genial, kindly-disposed, and courteous gentleman to meet, and with his estimable wife moves in Shelbyville's best society.

* * * *

CONRAD EILER AND SONS.

Conrad, the youngest son of Jacob and Catherine Eiler, was born in Pickaway Co., Ohio, September 13th, 1815. These parents were natives of Hesse, Germany, Mr. Eiler coming to Baltimore, Md., shortly after Napoleon's great defeat of the allied armies which opposed him. Before the close of the eighteenth century Mr. Eiler settled in Ohio, where his children were all born. The state of Ohio was then regarded as the far west. Conrad was the youngest child in this frontier home, and was inured to the privations, dangers and hardships incident to rural life in those early days. At the age of fourteen he began serving an apprenticeship to a miller, and after seven years of toil received as a compensation one hundred dollars in cash, besides having been given six months schooling. This sum of money, quite a competency for that day, was invested in a farm of 80 acres of land. This farm was subsequently sold for five hundred dollars, which transaction was but a prophecy of the business success that was to characterize our

subject in after years. On the 26th day of August, 1841, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Anderson, of his own native township. Five children, all sons, were born of this marriage. The names of three follow; the other two are subjoined under separate sketches: William, the eldest has never been married. His home is with his father, and he is engaged in farm-management and money-lending. He is the owner of 980 acres of good land. He did valiant service in the Civil war, since which time he has been somewhat broken in health. Lewis was also a soldier. His home is in Shelbyville, where he is engaged in real estate business. He has been twice married; Miss Julia Sharrock being his first wife, and Miss Zoro Boone his present companion. John R., the husband of Catherine Hanson, is a farmer near Pana, Ill..

The father of these sons came to Illinois and settled about two miles west of Tower Hill in the year 1849. There he lived until he removed to a farm just south of the village last named, and from thence to the place of his present abode in the south part of the village. Mr. Eiler was converted to God early in life and in a striking manner. The great change came to him in overpowering fulness, while he was at work in the field. For sixty-eight years he has been a devoted member in the United Brethren church, and, since he was thirty years of age, until deprived of active strength, he was a licensed local preacher in said denomination.

On the 29th day of June, 1865, he suffered the loss of his wife, and on the 5th day of March, 1896, met with a further misfortune in an accident which has since made it impossible for him to walk. Mr. Eiler has been a prominent man in his township; for thirty-five years he served in the capacity of treasurer, and for several terms as supervisor. Since the Civil war he has been an ardent republican. In business he was

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successful, having owned more than 300 acres of land; but, long since, he has divided all such interests among his successful sons. While one year would number all the days he ever spent in school, he is, notwithstanding, a well informed man. In no other field is his knowledge more ripe than in that of the Holy Scriptures. Since his fall, five years ago, he has read the Bible through each year. He might seem to some on first sight, as old and lonely, but he is neither: "His youth is renewed like the eagles" and the Unseen Friend is ever with him. His life has been long and useful; and, as the setting sun casts a halo upon the dark clouds, even after its disc has dipped below the horizon, so the setting sun of Conrad Eiler's life, lights up the countenances of those with whom he comes in contact, and will continue to glow in the lives of many, even after his chair is vacant.

ASA.

Asa Eiler was born in Tower Hill township, June 13th, 1857. He was reared upon his father's farm and attended the district school. Such good use did he make of the meager privileges he enjoyed, that in early life he was enabled to begin teaching school, which vocation he followed from 1876 to 1879. On the 25th day of September, 1878, he was joined in marriage to Miss Eunity J. Corley. One child, Walter O., was born to them. He afterward married Miss Rhoda Moutooth, of Lakewood. On the 1st day of May, 1883, Mr. Eiler lost, by death, his beloved wife. Subsequently, on the 29th day of Jan., 1885, he was married to Miss Jennie Sunderman, of Fairfield Co., Ohio. One little girl, Esther by name, was born to them on the 13th day of December, 1889.

Mr. Eiler lives in a fine residence of his own in the village of Tower Hill, and with his wife is the owner of four hundred forty acres of good

land. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen. He knows but one political faith: he is a republican. In the year 1872 he was converted to God and united with the church. For sixteen consecutive years he has been an elder in the Presbyterian church of his village. Mr. Eiler and wife are highly respected; they are known and recognized as people of worth, and are worthy representatives of the name Eiler which is so widely known throughout the county.

THOMAS C.

Pickaway county, Ohio, was the birthplace of Thomas C. Eiler, and September 13th, 1848, was the date. He came to Illinois with his parents and lived upon a farm, attending the district school until he was nineteen years of age. He was characterized by an intense love for books and at last entered the Westfield College, where he completed the Normal and Scientific courses of study, thus fitting himself for the profession of teaching, in which he became a recognized success. For three years he was principal of his home schools, and afterward taught at Assumption and Vermillion, Illinois. During the summers he engaged in institute work. On the 9th day of Sept., 1876, he was joined in marriage with Miss Beulah L., daughter of Robert and Margaret Pugh, who were pioneers in Shelby county.

To Mr. and Mrs. Eiler five children have been born: William R., who died at the age of seven; Charles R., now a student in Westfield College; Mary O., who will be graduated, this year, from the Shelbyville High school; Dwight M., and Thomas V. Believing that there is no better place than the country districts in which children may spend their early years, Mr. Eiler, in the year 1885 moved upon a farm two miles northwest of Tower Hill, and engaged in general

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farming and stock-raising. In this line he was eminently successful. After a lapse of eighteen years of farm management he found himself the owner of over six hundred acres of good land, which was well improved and stocked. Mr. Eiler is now a resident of Shelbyville, having moved into the city to afford his children better educational advantages. He is, with his brother Lewis, doing a flourishing real estate business.

He is a member of the United Brethren church and is devoted to the Master's cause. For two years he served as President of the Shelby County Sunday School association, doing much effective work in that line. In politics Mr. Eiler is an ardent prohibitionist, and is the present county chairman for said party. As is true of his aged father and excellent brothers, Thomas P. Eiler ranks among Shelby county's useful and respected citizens.

* * * *

WILLIAM H. RAGAN.

The roster of Shelby county's prominent men must needs contain the name of Honorable William H. Ragan, the present law partner of Judge Anthony Thornton.

Mr. Ragan was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, September 30, 1851, the son of James W. and Ellen (Springer) Ragan. Mr. Ragan served his country during the Mexican and Civil wars, and was wounded at Haine's Bluff, in 1862, and the result of this wound caused his death in 1886. In 1867 William H. came with his parents to Clark county, Ill., and the following year they removed to this county. His first school education was received in Holland township. In the spring of 1869 he entered the Shelbyville public schools, and in 1870—71 taught his first school, it being the Walker school of Windsor township.

Mr. Ragan began to read law with Hamlin

& Holloway in 1882. Before this, however, through the kindness of Moulton & Chafee, he obtained law books, and read while teaching his first schools. In 1884 he was admitted to the practice of law at the Bar. Subsequently taking a two years' course in the law department of the Northwestern University, graduating therefrom in 1886. After this graduation he formed a co-partnership with William C. Kelley, continuing the same until 1892. His next partnership was with ex-Supreme Judge Anthony Thornton, and this continues to the present time.

In boyhood Mr. Ragan was one of those lads who are early thrust out upon the world to do battle for themselves. After his fourteenth year he had no home, until he made one for himself in later life, and was compelled to work his own way from that time.

On the 1st of July, 1877, Mr. Ragan was married to Miss Mary C. Gallagher, daughter of Jacob and Sarah Gallagher, both deceased. Three children were the issue of this marriage: Elza M., a participant in the Spanish-American war, and now serving in the 22d U. S. Infantry in the Philippines; Maude A., a beautiful young lady, possessing rare talent in the line of vocal and instrumental music; and Jennie, who died in her infancy. A subsequent marriage of Mr. Ragan was to Addie M. Roessler, daughter of David Roessler, and grand-daughter of the late Captain Roessler, belonging to one of the best-known German families in the county.

Mr. Ragan was an adherent of the republican party until 1884, when his political views changed, and he embraced the faith of the democrats. He has ever been active in political campaigns, and has "stumped" throughout several states in the interests of presidential candidates. From a political, as well as a financial standpoint, Mr. Ragan has been a successful man. He has occupied the mayor's chair of the city of Shelby-



WILLIAM H. RAGAN.

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ville, and has also been County Judge, holding both offices at the same time. He is devoted to his law practice which is an extensive one. Beginning in poverty and obscurity and alone, Mr. Ragan has demonstrated the power of will, and indomitable courage which are his. He is a member of the Methodist church, and liberal in its support. His is a generous nature, he being ever ready to assist those in need or distress, and there are many who are pleased to call him "friend."

* * * *

HENRY CLAY PARRISH.

The subject of this biographical review is a native of Shelby county, having been born in Shelbyville township in 1844. His parents were Robert W. Parrish, born in Indiana, in 1811, and Hannah A. (Way) Parrish, born in the same state in 1816.

Henry spent his boyhood days on the farm upon which he was born, and attended the district school. Later he entered the Shelbyville Seminary, continuing his studies there until 19 years of age. He then began working for Thornton, Basey & Pfeiffer, general merchants, remaining with them four years, or until 1866. Mr. Parrish then engaged in dairy farming for a period of two years. Since 1871 he has been a valued employe of the firm of Kleeman, Goldstein & Sons, ever courteous to the public, and faithful to his employers.

In 1870 Mr. Parrish took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Jennie Ralston, born in Kentucky, but then living in Shelbyville. Mr. and Mrs. Parrish became the parents of four children: Pedie Princess, Robert Ralston, Daisy Pearl, and Anna who died in her infancy.

The two daughters are highly accomplished young ladies, and with the rest of the family are valued members of Shelbyville society. Of Robert R. we speak more definitely:

He was born in this city in 1874, and when he became of sufficient age he took up his studies in the schools, continuing the same until his graduation from the High school. Afterward he was appointed court stenographer and official reporter for this district, the 9th Judicial, and also assiduously applied himself to the study of law, under the direction of Hamlin & Kelley. So diligently did he pursue the study of "Blackstone," that in December, 1898, he was admitted to the bar, though he still retained his official position in the court.

In the city election of 1901, Robert became a candidate for city attorney, and was easily elected to the office. He is still a young man with the future before him, and if present indications are any criterion, his life will reach a high plane of usefulness and success. In December, 1899, he was married to Janetta Davidson, of Cumberland county; and they now reside in Shelbyville, and have one child.

Both father and son are members of the democratic party, and are loyal in their support of its principles. Altogether, the family is a talented and attractive one, and the home life is happy and pleasant.

* * * *

ROSS WARD.

The father of our subject, William L. Ward, was one of Shelby county's most successful and respected citizens; when but a young man he came from Bourbon county, Ky., his native home, and settled in Todd's Point township, this county. Here he engaged in farming and rapidly came to the front in this line. Before his death, which occurred on the 19th of July, 1872, Mr. Ward became the owner of more than a thousand acres of black prairie land, situated near the head of Robinson's Creek. His wife, Sally McIver, was born in Hopkinsville, Ky., and came to Illinois with her parents. She lived

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until the year 1882. Eight children were born into their home, only five of whom still live: Mrs. Mary Clements, of Galena, Kansas; John, of Huron, Dakota; William, of Oklahoma; Mrs. E. S. French, of Shelbyville, and our subject. Ross Ward was born in this county on the 4th day of February, 1849. He lived at home upon the farm and attended the district school until he was nineteen years of age. After this time he engaged in farming for himself and continued with same until he was thirty. As a farmer he emulated the successful record of his father before him. On leaving the farm Mr. Ward moved to the city of Shelbyville and engaged in the purchase of live-stock; first hogs, and then horses. He is said to be a very fine judge of animals. In the year 1898 he went to Louisiana and invested quite extensively in rice lands; this, too, has proven a very successful financial venture. Mr. Ward has engaged in several business pursuits, all of which have been successfully managed, which fact is an indubitable testimony to the excellence of his business ability. He is a member of the Redmen's fraternal order, and, politically, is a staunch republican. He still owns the home farm in Pickaway township, with which he would not be willing to part. Mr. Ward has a good standing among men; his word is as good as his bond, and he is recognized as a man of amiability and good parts.

* * * *

WILLIAM E. BIGGS.

John Milton Biggs, the father of William E., was one of Shelby county's successful busi-

ness men. He was born in Tremble Co., Kentucky, in the year 1815. He came to Shelby Co., Illinois, in 1866 and established for himself a brick yard on the east side of the Okaw. For a period of thirteen years he manufactured brick at this place; indeed, many of the brick buildings of Shelbyville were built of brick made in the Biggs brick yard. Mr. Biggs was a member of the Baptist church in Kentucky, as were all his ancestors. He was much respected by all who knew him. After retiring from business he made his home with his son W. E., at whose residence he died in 1898, at the age of 81 years. Maria Morin, born in Campbell Co., Kentucky, August 10th, 1829, became the wife of John M. Biggs on the second day of December, 1848; the ceremony took place at the bride's home. She was the daughter of Edward and Martha Morin, who died in the years 1876 and 1859, respectively. Mrs. Biggs died on the last day of June, 1865. To herself and husband were born seven children: Edward A., Cena, J. M., Jr.; William E., Robert A., Jefferson D., and Lucy H. William was born in Campbell Co., Kentucky, March 6th, 1857, and came to Illinois with his parents. He remained with them until he was twenty-one years of age, assisting his father in the brick business and attending the Shelbyville schools. In the year 1887 he was married to Viola Shipman, of Shelbyville. They are the parents of two children: Neva and Jessie. Mr. Biggs is a successful business man and has a good standing as a citizen. His home life is ever pleasant and happy. His wife finds in him an attentive and devoted husband, and the children find in him a kind and indulgent parent.

APPENDIX TO SHELBY COUNTY IN WAR,

WITH THE ADDITION OF "A COUNTRY DOCTOR ON THE FIRING LINE" AND
"AN INCIDENT OF CHICKAMAUGA."

By ELGIN H. MARTIN.

Some seeming omissions may be noted in the article, "Shelby County in War," as in other departments of this history. To account for these it may be well to state that it was not the purpose to give a complete history of each regiment, battery and company, but to give a brief sketch of each and some of the more important of the campaigns and engagements in which they participated. This note of explanation may serve to free the article from any seeming desire on the part of the writer or publisher to make invidious comparisons of the different commands which, so far as the writer knows, all did loyal, faithful service. It is true that it was the fortune, or misfortune, for some commands in which the Shelby county contingents served, to do more hard fighting, to undergo severer hardships, to endure more for the cause in which all were enlisted than did others, but this was no fault of the men. They were all ready at all times to do any service to which they were called, and are equally deserving of the plaudits of their countrymen.

A COUNTRY DOCTOR ON THE FIRING LINE.

The question has often been asked, and as often answered, "How does a man feel when first under fire?" We shall not here stop to answer this question, but shall instead give a chapter in the experience of a country doctor, who chanced at a critical period to be on the "firing line."

The gentleman of whom we speak is Dr.

Thomas L. Catherwood, now, and for 25 years, a resident practitioner in Shelbyville, but at the time he enjoyed(?) the experience related, a resident of Moweaqua.

No township in Shelby county, or Central Illinois, turned out more soldiers to put down the rebellion in proportion to population than did Moweaqua. She had representatives in a half score or more separate organizations. Among these were the Eighth, Fourteenth, Thirty-second, Forty-first, One Hundred and Fiftieth and One Hundred and Sixteenth regiments of Illinois infantry, and the Seventh Kansas infantry.

In the spring of '62 great anxiety was felt by the parents and friends of the Moweaqua soldier boys. The movement up the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers was in progress: the battles of Forts Henry and Donelson had been fought, and the Shelby county boys were in the advance division. Just at this time an embargo seemed to have been placed on travel and correspondence. Men who had before been promised furloughs home did not come, nor could any information of them be obtained.

At this juncture Dr. Catherwood, than whom no soldier or his family had a better friend, volunteered to go down to or as near "the seat of war" as he could get and endeavor to learn the whereabouts and condition of the missing men. He left home about the 20th of March. After looking through the camps and hospitals at Cairo, Columbus, Ky., and Mound City, he went up the Ohio to Padueah. Finding no trace of those for whom he sought, the doctor

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and a companion with whom he had fallen in, sought and found a quiet, inconspicuous berth on a government transport bound up the river with reinforcements for Grant's army. They had no permits, but Dr. Catherwood was fortunate enough to be able to ingratiate himself into the good graces of Dr. Wordsworth, of Concord, N. H., an army surgeon, also bound up the river. Through this gentleman's kindness Dr. Catherwood was placed in temporary charge of the 13th Ohio battery as assistant surgeon. Half the men of the battery were sick with mumps and the newly appointed army surgeon had little time to enjoy the more or less beautiful scenery as the boat pushed up the river.

The boat landed at Savannah, Tenn., where the doctor went ashore, and armed with a letter from Surgeon Wordsworth explaining the object of his visit, he reported at Gen. Grant's headquarters, secured a pass, as did his companion, and resumed his journey to Pittsburg Landing where the bulk of the army lay. At the landing the doctor met Col. "Dick" Oglesby, of the Eighth regiment, an old and valued friend; Capt. Oglesby of the Forty-first, also an acquaintance, and also Lieut.-Col. Tupper, of the same regiment. From these he learned the whereabouts and the reason the promised furloughs were not granted—a big battle was imminent and every man was needed in his place.

Without loss of time, the doctor started out on foot, to locate the lads whom he was most desirous to see. He had no difficulty in going from camp to camp, which was a surprise to him as he had supposed strict guard duty was imposed so near the front, and that every man within the lines would have to give an account of himself. Such, however, was not the case. From one camp to another he wended his way, without let or hindrance, and only once in his day's march was he even asked to show his pass.

This was in the camp of the 32d regiment; and here he met his old friend and neighbor, Capt. A. C. Campbell, who commanded a company in the 32nd. The Captain took him in charge and gave him the best a war footing allowed. Here he found a number of the Moweaqua boys all enjoying good health and seemingly well satisfied with army life.

The next morning, with an old friend, Joe Catherwood, wagonmaster of the 41st, the doctor rode miles into the country, inside and outside the Union lines, and as he believes, near to, if not inside, the rebel lines, yet never saw a picket or a vidette or any indication of even ordinary precautions having been taken against surprise by the enemy. This was not in accordance with the doctor's ideas of military discipline. His surprise was heightened when a few days later he obtained indubitable evidence that on the very day he and his friend, the wagonmaster, made a tour of the lines that the opposing armies were separated by only a few miles, a fact of which the Union army, at least, was wholly ignorant, as subsequent events proved.

As a country practitioner the doctor was somewhat inured to exposure and hardship, but it was not to be compared to that of army life. While he had the best the military commissariat could provide it was far from what he had been used to. His meals were somewhat irregular and scanty and being a "tenderfoot" his stomach protested against army diet and for a few days he was considerably under the weather.

Saturday night, April 5th, he was the guest of friends in the camp of the 41st regiment. He had slept as well as he could on the cold, cold ground, and had retired on an empty stomach. His bed was not of the best, probably the feathers had not been stirred. His rest was disturbed and he was glad when the first faint glimpse of daylight appeared. He arose and strolled about

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camp. He wandered down to the brigade commissary. In camp, rations, he knew, were short. Here they seemed plenty and by a stroke of good fortune he obtained an arm-load of hard-tack. Returning to camp he passed through that of the 32nd, now and then giving the boys he met a cracker until he came to the 41st. Here he found the boys in line of battle, many of them without breakfast and he soon and readily got rid of his hard bread.

The division (Hurlbut's) to which the 14th, 32nd and 41st belonged, was in the second line. Prentiss' division was in front and very early that morning had been attacked by the enemy in force. Many of Hurlbut's men were still in bed; more of them were engaged in getting breakfast when the rebels swooped down upon them, captured their camp and demoralized the division. They fell back in confusion, and about the time the subject of this sketch completed the distribution of his crackers the panic-stricken fugitives from the front came back on the run in great disorder. They brought a startling story of disaster. Following closely the discomfited federals the exultant foe came down on Hurlbut's division like a hurricane. The 41st was in an exposed position and were ordered back over the ridge where for some time they held their ground, but being taken in flank and their line enfiladed they fell further back toward the river where Col. Webster's cordon of big guns held the enemy in check until night fell and ended the day's carnage.

Just before the battle Capt. Oglesby handed Dr. Catherwood his purse, remarking that he had a presentiment that he would not survive the day. Essaying to do likewise with his watch he was prevented by a sudden order to advance. With the remark, "Give the purse to my wife," the gallant captain moved forward to his death. An hour later he was stricken

down by a musket ball and before his men could remove him another ball struck him and he fell to rise no more.

Dr. Catherwood passed the night on board a transport, helping care for the wounded. All night he worked, amputating limbs, dressing wounds, and doing what else he could to assuage the horrors of war. When morning came he went ashore. The battle re-opened early and before noon the Union troops were again in possession of their camps and the battle-field of the day before. With the necessary surgical instruments and appliances, provided by order of Col. Pugh of the 41st, and with four stretcher-bearers detailed from that regiment he went to the field and worked all day and late into the night, ministering to the immediate wants of the poor fellows, federal and confederate, who had fought so well. That night, among the dead brought in from the field, the doctor recognized Martin Bacon, one of the Moweaqua boys. He pinned a paper with the man's name and regiment on his blouse, and went on his way. Another of the Moweaqua contingent to fall was George Tuttle. Still another was Orderly Sergeant J. V. Clements of the 32d, whose leg had to be amputated, and who died a few days later, in the hospital at Mound City. Many others were more or less severely wounded, but the flight of years since has blotted the names from memory. When the doctor reached Cairo on his homeward journey he was able to deny the report that had reached home—that Col. Tupper was among the killed. He was only severely wounded.

In regard to his sensations when the battle came on, the doctor says he was not frightened. He had no sense of fear, but was simply dazed with the unwonted excitement and noise, and for a few minutes after real fighting commenced he was completely oblivious of his surround-

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ings. About ten or fifteen minutes of his life were completely blotted out, and until this day he cannot say what transpired around him. However, he came to a full realization of the horrors of war, and gained an exalted opinion of and respect for the heroism displayed by the American soldier. It may be added that this respect has served to endear him to the soldier and make him more than willing at any and all times to serve him or those who are or have been dear to him. Dr. Catherwood has perhaps been instrumental in assisting more soldiers and their widows to successfully prosecute claims for pensions than any other man in this congressional district and that without money or without price.

AN INCIDENT OF CHICKAMAUGA.

As mentioned elsewhere, the 115th Illinois infantry took a conspicuous part in the battle of Chickamauga, September 19 and 20, 1863. The regiment formed a part of Gen. James B. Steedman's (2d) Division of the Fourth Army Corps, which chanced to come into the fight at a most opportune moment, and did much to save "Pap" Thomas' heroic but almost exhausted troops from dire disaster.

Steedman's division was on the extreme left of the Union line Sunday morning, and, finding no enemy in his front, remained quietly in bivouac awaiting orders. Becoming impatient of inaction, and hearing heavy fighting to his

right, he finally moved off in quick time in that direction, without orders. At 1 o'clock in the afternoon the reserve corps reached the scene of operations and was at once sent in on a double-quick charge on Longstreet's veterans from the Army of Virginia and were hotly engaged until night came on.

About 3 o'clock the enemy made a most determined return assault on the Union line on Snodgrass Hill and forced it back over the hill, the federal's ammunition being almost or quite exhausted. Soon confusion resulted, when Gen. Steedman came dashing down the line, the very incarnation of courage, took the colors of the 115th, rushed forward and thundered out: "Now, boys; follow your flag!" and they did, repulsing the enemy with great slaughter. Then handing the colors to a non-commissioned officer of Co. B., the general said: "Here, sergeant; take this flag; stick to it—never give it up to the enemy!" This order was obeyed to the letter, and later the banner, torn to ribbons by rebel bullets, was returned to the color-bearer, when the sergeant picked up a musket, resumed his place in the ranks and took part in the regiment's final bayonet charge which saved from capture two pieces of the First Illinois artillery and closed the sanguinary struggle on that part of the field.

The non-commissioned officer to whom reference is here made is now Esquire John Weeks, of Tower Hill, then orderly sergeant of Co. B, 115th Infantry.

Lithia Springs Park and Health Resort

LITHIA (Shelby County, Illinois) Near Middlesworth on Big Four R. R.

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